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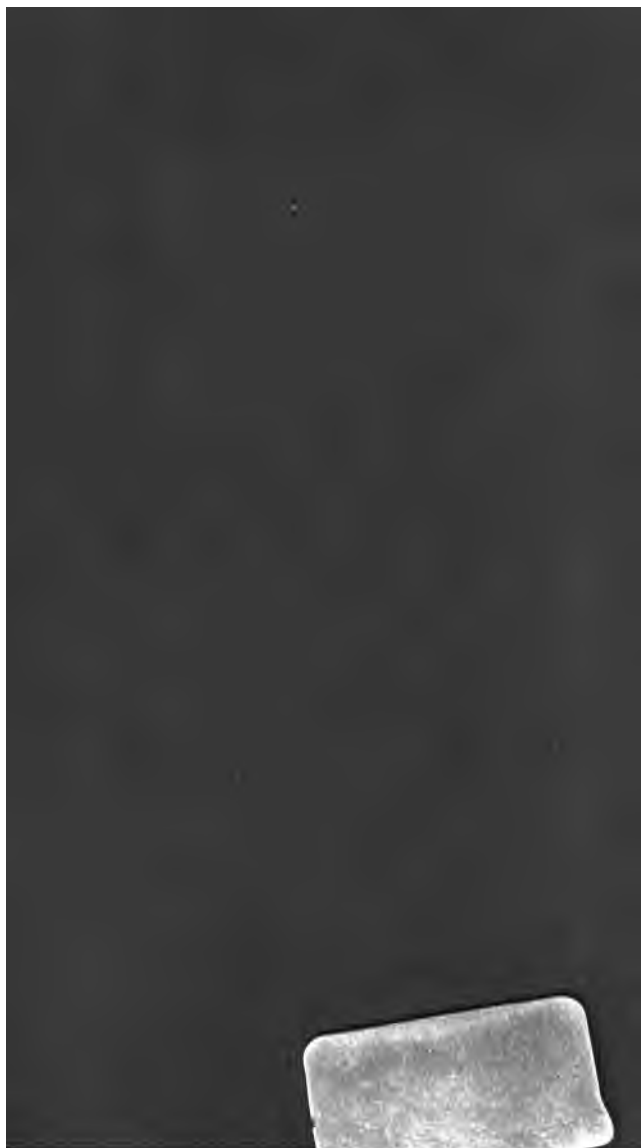
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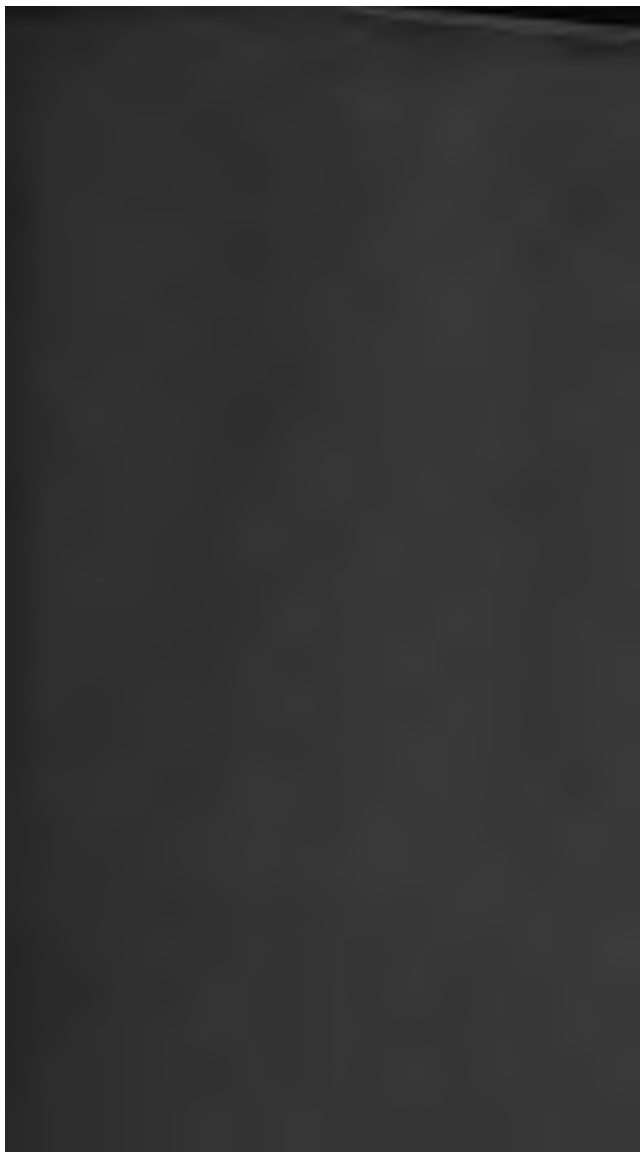
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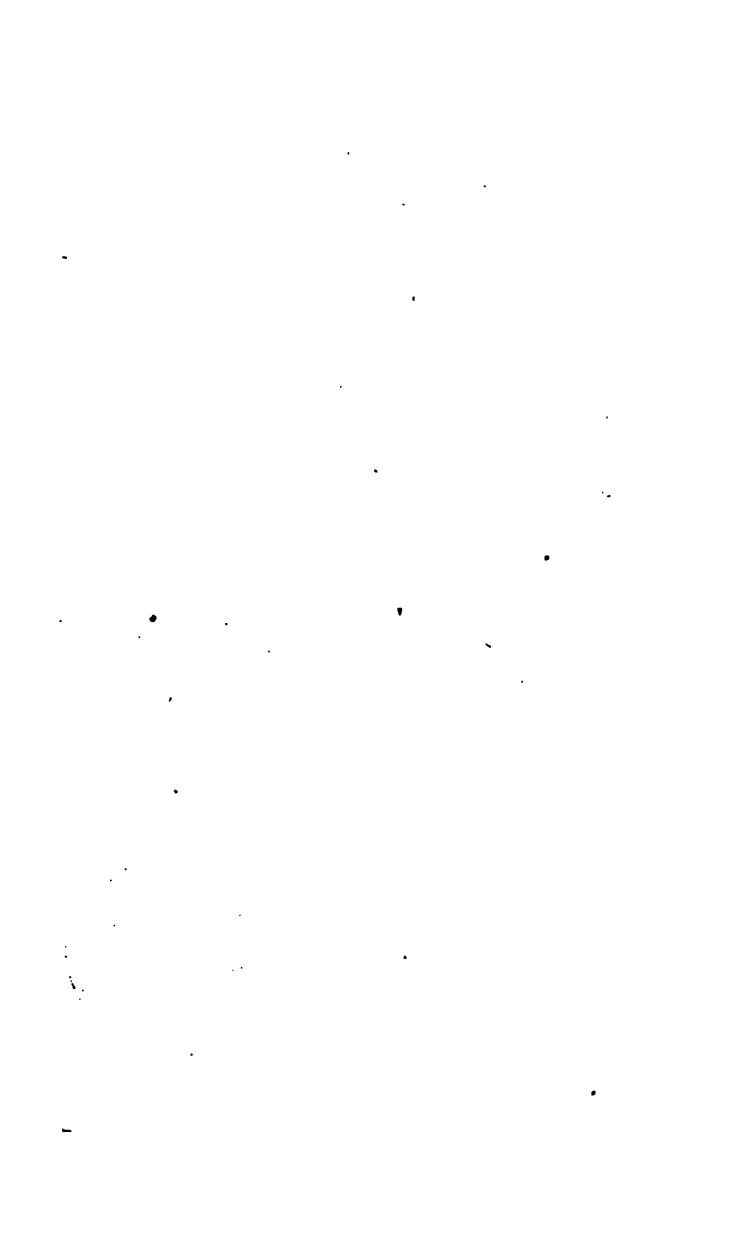
Qui possidebit felix.

T H E

A N T S :

A

R H A P S O D Y.



A

R H A P S O D Y.

Habet et Musca Splenem. Æsop.

To expose Vice, and make people laugh with Innocence, does more public service than all the Ministers of State from Adam to Walpole.
SWIFT.

Printed for L. DAVIS and C. REYMERS, in Holborn;
T. DAVIES, in Covent-Garden; and R. BALDWIN,
in Pater-noster-Row.

MDCCLXVII.

249. v. 223.





The EDITOR

TO EVERY

CANDID READER.

It being a problem in
I politics, capable of the
clearest and most perfect
demonstration, that out of
the many thousands who will,
doubtless, receive infinite satisfaction
and improvement from
the following work, at least some
few hundreds may be incited by
that laudable curiosity particularly
imprinted upon the minds
a of

of the learned, to know as much as possible respecting the author or compiler ; as, for instance, whether he was a Rosicrucian, or a man of the common form ; and if the latter, whether he was a big man or a little man, a fat or a lean man, a fair or a black one ; with many other particulars, equally entertaining, interesting, and edifying ; I think myself in duty and honesty bound, as a British subject and a good Christian, to give the loyal people of Great Britain, Ireland, and the Plantations abroad, all the satisfaction I am able in the matter, which they are desired to take as follows :

As

As I was, some time since, fauntering away a leisure hour in the Park, diverting myself with the variety of objects fluttering and bustling around me, I was suddenly, but very gravely and formally, accosted by a tall thin man, of a serious aspect, dressed in a long black cloak and a flapped hat, with a sword by his side, the point of which extended a full yard beyond the extremity of his cloak.

This grave person, after a formal salutation, desired to know whether I was not usually addressed by the name of * * * * *. Upon my answering in the affirmative,

mative, he opened his cloak, and taking out of his pocket a neat parcel, in appearance like a manuscript, wrapt up very curiously in green vellum, he presented it to me with the following address :

“ The inclosed manuscript, Sir, I composed some years ago, in the Spanish tongue, and intended to have published it in my own country, for the benefit and emolument of my brother Spaniards; but when I came to make the proper applications to the booksellers and publishers amongst us for that purpose, they gave me, for my encouragement, such a striking picture of the horrors
of

of an inquisition, and the dreadful punishments which are inflicted upon all state criminals, in the number of which they assured me I should most certainly be ranked, that I entertained such a disgust against my native country, being enthusiastically fond of liberty, as to form a resolution in my own mind not to entrust them with the rich treasure I have now committed to your care, but to discard my warm attachments to it, and embark myself, my genius, and my works, for this country of your's, so celebrated of late, as the only land of perfect liberty and freedom in the world.

“ Here I proposed to settle myself, in order to acquire as complete a knowledge as possible of your language, and then to translate my work into the same, and afterwards publish it as an encomium upon the happy constitution of your native soil.

“ Accordingly, in the space of seven years, I have been enabled to execute and complete my plan, with what success, as to the language, you who are a native must be the properest judge. All I can say for myself is, that I have exerted my best abilities in the execution, that the language may be answerable to the matter, the

6 style

style equal to the nobleness of the subject, and the manner open, free, and generous, in a way adequate to those sentiments of liberty and freedom with which I find my soul inspired.

“ As soon as I had completed my translation, and brought it to as great a degree of perfection as my abilities permitted, and, in my own opinion, properly prepared it for the press, I took the copy, and presented it to one of the most eminent booksellers in this your great metropolis, desiring him, after an attentive perusal, to take the care of its publication, as I doubted not such a

laboured treatise upon the principles of true liberty, must be vastly agreeable to every constitution in a land of perfect freedom.

“ For this purpose I left the manuscript in his hands, for the space of at least twelve hours ; after which, when I called upon him again for an answer, he, to my vast surprize and astonishment, returned me my copy with the following remarkable expressions :

“ Sir, I perceive you are an
“ utter stranger to the manners,
“ customs, and laws of the coun-
“ try

“ try you now are in ; and, in
“ pity to your ignorance, I am
“ willing to overlook your bold-
“ nefs in attempting to draw me
“ in as an instrument to misre-
“ present and revile our happy
“ constitution. I would not for
“ the world be concerned in any
“ fuch publication : my ears
“ would moft certainly be the
“ facrifice ; and my fhop, trade,
“ and bufinefs, be fubject to the
“ extenfive power and influence
“ of a fecretary’s warrant. No,
“ no, Sir ; however ferioufly you
“ may think of the affair, and
“ however great the merit of
“ your performance may be, I
“ fhan’t go about to facrifice my
“ peace,

“ peace, welfare, prosperity, and
 “ success in trade, to the schemes
 “ of a projector, or the edition
 “ of an Utopia. If you had
 “ employed half the time this
 “ work must have cost you, in
 “ writing a romance or a novel
 “ in the modern way, or com-
 “ posing something in the Shan-
 “ dean stile, I could have said
 “ something to you, and have
 “ published your copy with cre-
 “ dit and advantage to myself :
 “ but the examples of a Wilkes,
 “ &c. &c. &c. are too recent
 “ both in my eyes and my ears
 “ to reflect upon without horror
 “ and apprehension. No, Sir ;
 “ you are totally unacquainted in
 “ the

“ the nature of our glorious con-
“ stitution : but I say no more,
“ only I would advise you to turn
“ your studies another way ; and
“ if you can present me with any
“ composition that I can get pro-
“ fit by in the way of my trade,
“ without hazard to my fortune
“ or my ears, no person shall be
“ more ready to serve you in a
“ decent way ; but till then I
“ am your humble servant, and
“ desire to hear no more about
“ any such matters.”

“ After this extraordinary ha-
rangue, he left me abruptly to
pursue my own reflections with-
out molestation.

“ Satisf-

“ Satisfied, and fully convinced by this solid reasoning, that liberty only exists in idea, even amongst you in this boasted land of freedom, I am resolved to seek out some far distant desert island, where I may indulge the genius that animates my soul in its full extent, without being subject to the favours of the great, the sneers of the little, and the selfishness of all amongst you.

“ But before I take a final farewell, as a testimony of the principles of my soul, though a Spaniard and a catholic, I intrust you with those papers I have committed to your care, with
full

full and free liberty to do with them as you shall judge most prudent and proper. I think I know both your temper and your abilities; and am persuaded, that though you was born and educated amongst the bogs of Ireland, your heart is animated with the warmest and sincerest affection for your country, your sovereign, your laws, and your privileges; and that the most ardent wish of your soul is the same that animates my own, That religious and civil freedom, in their full extent, may become the portion even of the meanest of your countrymen, with all their genuine genial influence and power,

power, when they shall be capable of entertaining any becoming ideas thereof, which I am satisfied and persuaded, from my own experience, they are by no means qualified for at present, whatever they may be in some future happier period. I wish you as much happiness as can exist in a region of slaves. As to myself, I am determined to live free, if I live in a desert. All I beg is, that you will take becoming care of my trust. My friend, adieu."

Here he made a most formal congee, and walked away with all the gravity, solemnity, and
grandeur,

grandeur, becoming his country, whilst I stood so stupified and astonished at his unexpected and extraordinary address, that I had not power to recover myself from my surprize, so far as to accost the gentleman in return for his civilities, till he was completely vanished out of my sight ; since which time I have never heard the least word about him farther.

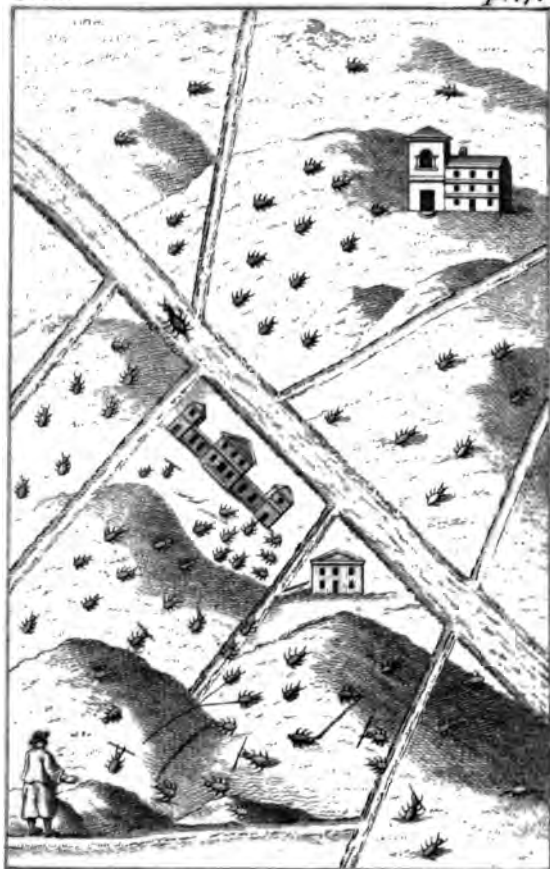
When I returned to my lodgings, curiosity, it is natural to suppose, excited me to examine the contents of a packet so oddly committed to my trust ; and upon examination I found it so
novel,

novel, and so much out of the common way, that I could not avoid imagining the public might receive some pleasure, if not profit, from the perusal, notwithstanding the sagacious reasonings of that notable bookseller mentioned by the Spaniard.

Under this persuasion, I have committed it to the care of my own publisher, who seems to be of a different sentiment from the learned man above-mentioned : and under his auspices it is now recommended to the public inspection.

As





Nitimur in vetitum nefas.

As to myself, I enter not into the merits of the performance ; but, as novelty has the most attractive charms in every thing, whether it be religion, politics, morality, dress, or any of the other more important occupations of mankind, I think I am making a kind present to the dear creature which I so much love and admire, the *mob* of great and small amongst my countrymen and fellow-subjects ; and as I am come from my native bogs to contribute my mite to the public instruction, I shall think myself entitled to their most hearty thanks and approbation. But be this as it may,

b

I have

I have here given them a plain and simple narrative of the manner of my possessing the following work, as far as any particulars relating to it have been communicated. What the sentiments of my fellow-subjects shall be about it, I know not; only this I know, that as I uprightly mean not only their pleasure but their instruction, it would be a most crying piece of injustice, and a most wanton act of cruelty, to inflict any sort of punishment upon one who is so vastly solicitous to promote and advance their pleasure and profit; which if I am so unhappy to experience through their ingratitude, I hereby

by declare that I will fly to my bogs and my fastnesses again, where I can at least enjoy, in security, that small portion and pittance of liberty which our governors have thought proper to leave us in the possession of, for the better cajoling and coaxing the bulk of the subjects, that is, the meanest of the people, to submit with pleasure to their upright and righteous administration.

DERMOT O'PHEILLY.





ADVERTISEMENT.

WHEREAS fundry critics,
hypercritics, and particu-
larly Monthly Reviewers, pre-
suming upon their time imme-
morial prescriptive possession of
that power which they have
usurped to themselves, of being
tasters for the good people of
Great Britain and Ireland, and
the Plantations abroad, of all,

b 3 and

and all manner of sorts and kinds of provisions of the mind, imported into his majesty's realms by that numerous and separate body of merchants trading in the productions of the human brain, generally known by the name, stile, and title, of Authors; have falsely asserted, and continue to do so, that they, by their own authority, are the sole absolute judges of the wholesomeness or unhealthfulness of all such provisions, and how far they may be useful or injurious to the mental tastes and digestion of his majesty's liege subjects : this is to give notice to all such critics, hyper-

hypercritics, reviewers, and others whom it may concern, That we Aristarchus, the greatest of all hypercritics, have taken the following work under our own immediate inspection and protection, in all and in part: that we intend to write criticisms upon it ourself, both in the diffuse and the didactic way: and that, having thus signified our intention, it shall be deemed high treason against the laws of the realm of Apollo for any of the said critics, hypercritics, or reviewers, &c. to presume or dare, upon any account, or upon any consideration (not even for

the support of their own existence) to offer or obtrude upon the public any of their crude and undigested criticisms, animadversions, or annotations upon the said work, the contents of it being infinitely above all their shallow conceptions; absolutely superior to their highest ideas; and beyond the utmost ken of their short-sighted understandings. And we do hereby declare, by virtue of that dictatorial authority which belongs to our post, as prime minister to his sacred majesty Apollo, and the sovereign ladies the Muses, that all such criticisms, remarks, animadversions, and observations, as the
said

said critics, hypercritics, or reviewers, shall presume to make, publish, or declare upon or about the said work, shall be deemed false, absurd, foolish and unnatural, and devoid of all truth or merit whatsoever. Provided nevertheless, that all small critics and little fellows shall be at full and free liberty to make verbal criticisms upon the said work, in all coffee-houses, booksellers shops, and elsewhere, within the bills of mortality, but no where else; it being our intention to give the author's true sense and meaning, which we alone are in possession of, in a large commentary, which
 we

we are now preparing for the press; of which our intention we desire all his majesty's liege subjects to take proper notice, that they be careful not to offend in any of the premises, under pain of our severest displeasure.

ARISTARCHUS.

M A R-

MARTINUS SCRIBLERUS,
Junior,

Of the W O R K.

TH E following delectable
work, gentle reader, hav-
ing been subjected by the editor
to our inspection and animadver-
sions, we Scriblerus junior, be-
ing pleased with several reproofs
and reprehensions contained there-
in, derived from the pure foun-
tain whence we ourselves draw
our

our criticisms, and our superior knowlege and genius in composing our adversaria upon the works of modern authors, had determined to enrich the piece with some elegant strictures and illustrations of our own. But as our dear friend and brother Aristarchus hath publicly hereby proclaimed himself the sole guardian and protector, and only genuine illustrator of the work, we shall reserve our larger annotations to adorn his commentary with, and shall content ourselves at present with only briefly explaining and unfolding the technical, and seemingly hieroglyphical,

cal, terms used by the author, to explain the names or titles of those emmets whom he describes as maintaining the chief power and authority, and making the most distinguished figure in their native hillock.

These names, we are aware, some snarling ill-natured critics will be ready enough rashly and infidiously to inform the public, are by no means the invention of the respectable author of the work before us, but are borrowed from one of the languages of ancient times, being to be found, according to their confident assertions, in some
manu-

manuscripts at the end of a certain obsolete heroic poem, supposed to be the work of the immortal Homer, called by the name of *Batrachomyomachia*. But as it doth not appear from the work itself, that the author had any knowlege of the Greek language at all, we reject all such conjectures and assertions as futile, puerile, and inane; and pronounce, by virtue of our universal knowlege and skill in all sciences and languages, that there is not the least ground for any such notions or opinions; the words made use of belonging to the language spoken in the emmet

met world, as we shall make appear beyond all contradiction in a future commentary, pronouncing at present as our opinion, that the words are such, without the least doubt : which opinion we expect all mankind to subscribe to, they being taught the philosopher by his guardian Sylph, to whose goodness and benevolence he acknowledges himself so greatly indebted for all those glorious and extensive discoveries he has herein been able to make for his fellow-creatures, to the vast emolument, advancement, and improvement of natural and physical knowlege.

The

The true sense and meaning of the said appellatives and hieroglyphical terms we do therefore assert to belong to the language of the emmets, and to express the following abstruse and mystical senses and interpretations :

MERIDARPAX. A plunderer of pieces or crusts of bread; *North Country*. A taker of whole shivers, signifies all those emmets who are greedy of bread and gain, who will take fees and bribes on both sides, and is here doubtless particularly used to express the name and title of any emmet whose character is ambitious,

tious, greedy, rapacious, haughty, insolent, &c.

TROXARTES. Greedy of bread; a term in use, to express the name and character of any emmet who will run extraordinary lengths to procure a subsistence, and use any extraordinary means to increase and improve his private hoards and granaries; and particularly applied to those sort of people amongst them who are artful and selfish, covering their own secret self-interested schemes and designs under the specious appearances of virtue, public spirit, honour, generosity, &c.

HYPsIBOAs. A loud bawler one that is passionate, haughty revengeful, insolent, obstreperous: a name applied to all such emmets in the colony who are fond of themselves, and proud of their own talents; noisy sticking at nothing to carry any point they set their minds upon whether right or wrong; and sacrificing faith, truth, honour, friendship, religion, and every thing valuable to their pride and their passions.

SEUTLÆUs. An eater of turnips, onions, carrots, or garlic: a name given to such emmets as are fond of worldly and temporal posses-

possessions ; who take uncommon pains to enlarge their granaries and improve their fields at all events, and at all hazards ; such a ruling passion dictating artfulness, caution, reserve, with a violent selfishness at the bottom of all ; enslaving the whole animal, and upon proper occasions and opportunities forcing him to sacrifice every thing that is valuable in life, to gratify and indulge the insatiable passion of accumulation ; maintaining, even in the midst of the most seeming inconstancy and irresolution, a secret determined steadiness of soul, to stick at nothing to compass such a darling and favourite

point, as improving their hoards and enlarging their tenements.

... **AEICHENOR.** Any emmet that is apt to lick his own tail, doubtless denoting those fawning animals amongst them that are skilful to cog, lie, and flatter, coax and wheedle, to carry a point, at the same time that they are vastly disposed to revile secretly, and slyly sneer upon and make game of the openness, artlessness, sincerity, or foibles of their fellow-emmetts: the very reverse of the Hypsiboans, who force and bully themselves into fame, fortune, and place, by violence; whilst such as these wriggle them-

themselves into the same by all the arts of fawning, creeping, licking, soothing, tickling, scratching where it itcheth, flattering, and such like.

TROGLODYTES. A burrower in the ground : a name usually given to such pismires as are fond of burying themselves under ground along with their substance, their stores, and private hoards ; whose ideas all partake of the nature of the soil they are settled in, and confined to terrestrial objects ; and whose cares are totally employed and devoted to worldly pursuits and temporal acquisitions ; and to over-reach, trepan
or

or deceive their fellow-creatures, the better to accomplish their private views and designs.

LYCHOPINAX. A lickèr of trenchers and dishes : a term employed to denote such emmets as are contented to take things as they find them in the common course of worldly events, and rest satisfied with the portion assigned them by their predecessors, without being over greedy, tenacious, haughty, covetous, proud, ambitious, cruel, or fond of new-fangled schemes, contrivances, and inventions ; and, by such a placid disposition of mind, exempted from those passions which

prevent such multitudes of their fellow-emen from seeing clearly their own true interests, and being so often misled into false pursuits, to the dishonour of their sovereign, and the great and grievous detriment of their native hills.

Such are the abstruse and difficult terms made use of by our author, which we have here briefly explained, for the benefit of our dear countrymen. As to any farther annotations and illustrations, of which we have great store, we must refer the candid reader to the elaborate work of our dear brother above-mentioned, when
he

he shall condescend to illuminate the minds of his fellow-creatures with his most noble, most elegant, most humane, and most ingenious remarks and researches, we having determined, out of our superlative affection, to give him all the assistance in our power from our best and choicest treasures of true criticism.

SCRIBLERUS, junior.

THE



T H E
A N T S.

O *Immortals, blind to future!* said Eugenio, as he was walking by the side of a forest, in a clear star-light night, deep wrapt in contemplation upon the wonderful works of a creative Power, and the varied conduct of those beings all around him who were the objects of its care and notice ; when suddenly dashing his foot against a hillock which stood in his way, whilst his eyes were fixed upon the span-gled firmament, his contemplations were interrupted, and his eyes drawn off from the nobler objects they had been fixed upon, to observe beneath his feet what

B

had

had so suddenly diverted his speculations.

As soon as ever the philosopher cast his eyes downwards, he discovered it to be an ant hillock of no mean figure ; and tho' he could not conceive that his accidental tripping upon it could have done any real mischief to the inhabitants of the colony, especially at such an unseasonable hour, when the whole nation might naturally enough be imagined to have composed themselves to rest and quiet, by way of refreshment from the fatigues and toils of their daily labours, he could not avoid plainly observing a most violent hurry and bustle amongst the inhabitants of this diminutive spot.

He thought he discovered in every part of the settlement that anarchy and confusion which, amongst higher orders of beings, called men and christians, proceed generally from the want of principle, the
contempt

contempt of laws, or the neglect of those peculiar manners and customs which enter intimately into the genius of every well governed and peaceable society; or from that ardent thirst for power and domination which is the certain effort of every genius, both in the human and the emmet world, who entertains any exalted opinion of his own abilities and merits, at the expence of those of his neighbours and fellow-beings.

Struck with the uncommon phenomenon, the philosopher dismissed the past subject of his high contemplation, and directed his attention to the surprising object which presented itself beneath his feet, with a view to investigate and account for, if possible, those strange and uncommon appearances.

He saw the confusion plain enough, and the violent commotions that agitated the countenances and conduct of these dimi-

nutive animals ; and amongst other things equally remarkable and surprising he could discover by the clear light of the moon, a long track, or path-way, which seemed to be making with the greatest diligence, assiduity, and attention, quite through the whole extent of the colony from east to west. He also particularly took notice of various motions and counter-motions of several ants, who seemed to merit or assume some distinction in the colony, towards the west end of the territory.

These seemed to indicate caution and apprehension on both sides, and a warm and violent contest between the inhabitants of two distinct districts of the colony, which bordered upon one another. Their countenances expressed a tenacious disposition, and a firm resolution in both parties to support their own side in the dispute against all opposition.

He

He could also plainly discover by the same light of the moon, numbers of the inhabitants distributed and parcelled out quite through the whole extent of the territory ; some with grass spires in their mouths ; others with barley hames and oat beards in their paws ; others with a kind of chains made of chick-weed, seemingly measuring, laying out, and dividing the several divisions and lordships of the colony into certain parts, shares, and proportions, which they appeared to execute with uncommon diligence, care, and exactness, but at the same time a most apparent selfishness, and a violent attachment to their several separate and private interests : whilst the main body of the people the philosopher could discover at their respective homes, in the center of the hillock, in secret and silent confusion, discontent, disgust, and dismay, as if they apprehended the great lords of the hillock were united and associated together in one pre-

meditated plan, to reduce them to slavery, poverty, and want.

Struck at such an uncommon and extraordinary sight, our philosopher found his whole ideas engaged in the contemplation ; but being reminded by the descending light of the moon of the season appointed for rest and repose, he directed his steps homewards, with a firm resolution to revisit the hillock the following day, with a proper apparatus of microscopical instruments, to investigate with the utmost exactness the extraordinary commotions and confusion he had at that time been witness of; and to endeavour with all his abilities, according to the most approved practice of all physical philosophers, some hypothetical system, which might be of the most important service and benefit to his own rank of being, by pointing to them the various conduct of a colony of animals so vastly inferior, in the opinion of themselves, to
the

the pride and dignity of human nature,
no' vastly superior to them in diligence
and industry.

Fraught with this important design,
Eugenio committed himself for the present
to his repose ; but the idea of what he had
seen continued so strongly impressed upon
his mind, that immediately upon his first
awakening his imagination presented to his
view a bright glittering appearance, of a
more than mortal form, with a sweetness,
gentleness, and majesty of countenance, in-
finitely superior to that of man, which
gave an inexpressible grace to the manner
of his address.

This phantom, after gently drawing the
curtains of the philosopher's bed, addressed
himself to Eugenio with a most melodious
accent in the following terms : “ Eugenio,
awake ! 'Tis thy ruling Genius calls thee,
and invites thee to resume the subject of
thy late contemplations and astonishment.

Arise quickly, and permit me to conduct thee back again to that uncommon scene so lately presented to thy view in the ant hillock thou disturbedst in thy forest walk this evening, that thou mayest learn from thence to check the sallies of thy vain philosophy, to correct those overweening ideas of that dignity and pride which thou and philosophers like thee have annexed to the human frame, and be instructed to entertain an humbler opinion of thine own abilities, from the prospect which I intend to spread before thine eyes in this uncommon scene, and the conduct which I shall enable thee to discover in the various actions of this diminutive race, which I intend to explain and unfold in order before thee."

After this gentle and agreeable address, the phantom seemed to touch the forehead of the philosopher with an ivory wand, which he seemed to hold stretched out in his hand : when immediately Eugenio
finding

finding himself instantaneously transfigured by the magic touch, immediately started up from his bed to attend the phantom, according to his mild directions ; flattering himself, that as his faculties of perception were vastly altered, his guide was conducting him to one of the noblest and most luxurious entertainments that could possibly be prepared for mortal man.

Whilst he was thus pleasing his imagination with this most delightful scene, he suddenly found himself and his guide transported to the hillock, where he was no sooner arrived than he thought the phantom, pointing with his wand, began to address him in the following serious and solemn manner :

“ Vain mortal, now attend, whilst thy ruling Genius unfolds to thee the mysterious ways of Almighty Providence, and the unknown and undiscovered agents the Author of all things makes use of, as instruments

struments to direct, controul, and regulate the petulance and folly of thy fellow-creatures.

“ Know, then, that by the superintendence of that all-powerful Agent, who presideth over innumerable worlds, and watcheth over the immensity of his own creation, according to the dictates of his own everlasting wisdom ; it hath been directed and ordained, that not a particle of his creation should suffer any real or total annihilation ; but, by an immense and constant change and alteration in their original particles, and their various points of contact, their external form, texture, and composition, they shall continue invariably to produce that immense variety and orderly consistency which not only denotes, but most explicitly demonstrates the everlasting existence of one primary intelligent Cause, the author of all things, but the destroyer of nothing.

“ It

“ It is by the dispositions of this infinite and all-wise Providence, that we, the Genii of this lower world, flutter continually abroad, hovering over the children of men, according to the various purposes, views, and designs, of his own wisdom.

“ We were once embodied spirits like yourselves ; but being now divested of our humanity, and removed into a kind of intermediate state, according to the different prevailing habits impressed upon our souls during the season of our probation, we employ our faculties in the direction and conduct of you mortals here below.

“ Vain, weak, and foolish are the opinions the philosophers of your worlds entertain of their own souls, the dignity of their natures, the sublimity and sagacity of their genius, and the noble discoveries they have made in philosophy, by their curious researches into the natural and
moral

moral faculties of their constitution. Weak is their claim, and idle their pretensions: we are the spirits who inform their minds, inspire their thoughts, and direct their judgments in all their enquiries and most curious researches. According to the nature of our faculties, Eugenio, and the tincture which our souls have received when in an embodied state, we are distinguished into two general important classes, known amongst ourselves by the names of Sylphs and Gnomes.

The former class, blest with the habits of improving and adorning the natural faculties impressed upon their beings by the Supreme Almighty whilst in their embodied state, are appointed to preside over and direct the steps of such of the sons of you mortals as desire to walk in the paths of true rectitude, and improve their faculties by useful knowledge and a practical understanding: whilst such of you who
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are subject to the power of your imaginations, or the gratification of your appetites and passions, are by the same wise orders superintended and directed by that other species of aerial beings, called in the language of such spirits Gnomes, whose province and duty it is to cherish the fancy, enrich the imagination, and to administer the proper food and relish for the better enjoyment of every sensual gratification, and the exaltation of every animal desire and appetite.

“ Such is the divine system, in which we are concerned conjointly with the sons of men. But the œconomy of an Infinite Providence is by no means confined to any peculiar orders of beings. It is as extensive as the creation itself; and each inferior order of beings in the animated world have all their peculiar Sylphs and Gnomes attending upon them by the Almighty’s orders, to direct their thoughts, inspire their conduct, and animate their actions.

actions. To these invifible beings you are to afcribe, and not to that dark unintelligible term *infinit*, in ufe amongst vain men to folve the phænomena of nature in the animal world, all thofe various motions, and feeming approaches to the reafon of the human mind, which you fo frequently difcover and obferve in all the inferior orders of your creation. We are the beings that excite their hope, that animate their motions, expel their fears, and regulate their actions.

“ The fagacity of the elephant, the fiercenefs of the tyger, the fidelity of the dog, the docility of the horfe, are all falſely afcribed to faculties implanted within themſelves. We are the beings who inſpire their thoughts, direct their conduct, and animate all their motions; we are their actuating ſpirits, who inform them with all the diſtinguiſhing characteriſtics of their ſeveral peculiar exiſtences: Not even the ſmalleſt animals are exempted
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from our influence and jurisdiction. The industry of the bee, and the providence of the ant, are the consequences of our continual inspiration. Admire then in silence the wonderful ways of a creative Power, and learn to condemn the vain and idle systems of vacuums and plethms; for from hence thou must be convinced that there is no void in the creation of God."

Here the Genius concluded his harangue, and after a short pause began again to address himself to the philosopher in a milder and a more familiar tone of voice, after he had first anointed his eyes with a pure crystal water out of a small vial which he held in his left hand, which possessed the extraordinary property of dispelling those mists that constantly envelop and inclose all sublunary things and beings; after which operation he ordered the philosopher to direct his sight stedfastly to the ant hillock,

lock, and then proceeded in the following manner :

“ You see, Eugenio, the confusion, tumult, and the wild disorder which seems to prevail through the whole territory. Impute it not to the accident that interrupted thy own lucubrations ; it was there long before, and has too long prevailed either for the peace or welfare of the inhabitants. A time there was when peace, tranquillity, and happiness, seemed to be its portion, and the joy of its possession ; when every countenance was serene, and every heart glad ; and the sole strife of the inhabitants appeared to be, who should best assist ; and most effectually serve each one his neighbour. But the dreadful alteration, alas ! is too plain ; ’tis obvious to every common observer.

“ To what strange or secret causes it is to be attributed, the orders of my superiors prevent me from disclosing. They are
close

close lockt up, and confined from the keenest, and most piercing, and penetrating view, time alone is appointed to reveal and unfold the important secret.

“ Suffice it, Eugenio, and repine not if I only attempt to remove the misty curtain of thy mortal sight, to exhibit to thy view a genuine picture of the too general conduct of thy fellow-creatures, by this minute representation of the disorders of this ant-hillock which is now before thine eyes.

“ Thou seest the general confusion which appears to prevail in every part and district of the territory : thou seest the hurry which agitates the minds and actions of every individual inhabitant. If thou lookest attentively, thou mayest also, by the assistance I have given thee, discover the hitherto invisible operations of those superior genii which, according to the divine system I have explained, are appropriated

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priated by the orders of the all-wise Creator, for the direction and government of this diminutive animal race."

He then made a short pause, seemingly to give the philosopher more time for recollection and observation ; after which he proceeded as follows :

" Eugenio, observe that emmet, whom thou seest stalking along the main road of the hillock with a haughty, assuming, and imperious air ; seemingly looking down round about him upon his fellow-inhabitants as a race of inferior beings, scarce becoming his notice or attention. See with what an air of supercilious haughtiness he conducts himself, whilst he seems to be directing the motions of those inferior emmets thou seest fluttering at a distance round about him.

" That ant was once good, and myself was appointed his guardian genius ; and if
he

would have followed my instructions and inspirations, I can assure you he would have been one of the brightest ornaments of the whole society to which he belonged : but vanity and pride, the bane of all the virtues, fapped the foundations of goodness I was at the greatest pains to fix in his soul, and by degrees overturned the glorious superstructure of beneficence I had endeavoured to erect therein, and, even at this present moment I lament the loss, obliged me, in consequence of the repeated directions of my superiors, to give up the farther superintendence of his mind to that gloomy Gnome, whom thou mayst observe at this present moment perched upon his left eyebrow : since which, like you mortals in the paroxysms of distemper, he views all objects in a distorted light, and must ever continue to do so, as long as the guardian Gnome shall be permitted to flutter her gaudy gilded pinions before his eyes, to corrupt his ideas and distract his views.

“ But enough of such a proud and haughty animal. Cast your eyes this way, and observe that industrious sprightly emmet you discover with such activity directing the motions of a number of his fellow-emmets, in that private track which crosses the main road of the colony. Observe the point towards which they all direct their motions, and you will discover this emmet’s magazine, and be able to see very clearly, from the conduct of this small insect, the mighty possessions which may be acquired, and the mighty actions that may be performed by you mortals, by an unwearied attention to one steady point, and an unrelaxing industry and perseverance in the pursuit of one main and important object, whether it be power, riches, or reputation.

“ The œconomy and sagacity apparent in every part of his conduct and actions indicate in the plainest manner not only the prudence and foresight of his soul, but
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the largeness and extent of his views ; and the cheerfulness with which those who appear to be his inferiors perform their tasks, give to a good heart no unpleasing prospect of a munificent and generous mind ; which will also be greatly confirmed when you cast your eyes to the more retired parts of his magazine, and observe that complacency and satisfaction which brightens up the countenances of the partner of his cares and joys, and the common pledges of their love.

But, alas ! perfection is no more the lot of this diminutive race than of you sublunary mortals. The very virtues and graces which appear so greatly to adorn this emmet's character have of late years, by an extreme prosperity, by too strong indulgence, and steady constant attachment, unhappily too often been heightened into blemishes and vices. His industry hath occasionally degenerated into a vicious selfishness ; his activity into a culpable arrogance,

rogance, and his extreme prosperity into an extreme of haughtiness and pride; so that the beneficence of his soul hath at times become distorted to the view, and all his fellow-emmetts, who formerly loved and admired him, are too much inclined to judge his most benevolent actions to be founded only in selfishness, conceit, or pride; which is also no little heightened and enhanced too frequently in the most artful and industrious manner by the secret suggestions of that haughty ant which I have just before presented to your view.

“ Now cast your eyes, Eugenio, to the left hand, and you will discover at some distance in the hillock another emmet of a peculiar texture and make. Observe his composition carefully, and you will see a strange mixture of jarring elements of hot and cold, moist and dry, mingled together in such a manner as to make the little insect the most unequal, unsteady, and absent, of all ants; and according as one or the
other

other principle happens to gain the ascendancy in his constitution and temper, he becomes animated by turns, and starts by a Sylph or a Gnomé ; from which circumstance alone can be derived the least rational account of all that contrariety of conduct and sentiment which displays itself in almost all the transactions of his being.

“ By this key alone you can be enabled to unlock the secrets of his soul, and by this clue only can you trace him throughly, without being bewildered in the otherwise inextricable labyrinths of his behaviour. Observe him at the present moment : he is just now wholly under the direction of a Gnome whose ruling passion is the love of riches, and an ardent thirst for power and aggrandizement in consequence thereof. Two hours hence he may be under the influence of a Genius entirely the reverse, and discourse most rationally upon the contempt of riches, glory, and honour, as unworthy the pursuits of an immortal soul.

“ This spirit of accumulation and pride appears also to be considerably strengthened and confirmed by that ancient emmet thou beholdest so constantly diligent and active about him. That pismire is his fire, who by a persevering attachment to the great lord of the hillock, and a constant steady devotion to his chief agents, joined to a great fund of industry and natural abilities, hath attained at this time to one of the most important posts of the colony, as being appointed to manage the lord’s interest and property with the inferior inhabitants thereof.

“ Whence it happens, that these two ants are to be considered as principal objects, of great consideration, as being the chief springs of motion, and the main causes of far the greater part of that bustle and confusion which is so justly the object of thy wonder and astonishment.

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“ Now turn thy eyes to the right hand, and thou wilt discover a small glittering appearance in one of the retired parts of the hillock, which looks at a distance something like a little heap of gilded gravel, particularly when the sun-beams are not prevented from shining upon it by that hill which thou see'st obstructs the prospect from it. That spot is the habitation of a brace of ants as remarkable as any in the colony. If thou look with care, thou mayest at this present moment observe them busied in spreading and levelling some very minute particles of matter before the door of their habitation with rakes made of thistle-down.

“ If thou be inclined to remark their countenances, thou wilt plainly discover in the two brothers, for such they are, those peculiar talents which in thy world of beings are esteemed the most efficacious for attaining preferment, and acquiring respect and consideration, as the world goes.

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“ The fawning smiles of the one, and the contemptuous leer of the other, both the children of dissimulation, and the genuine offspring of a corrupted heart, seem admirably calculated to mark their characters, and plainly point out to thee those consequences such spirits naturally tend to produce in the colony.

“ Originally these two puny animals were designed to instruct and improve their fellow-emmetts in all those graces and virtues which religion is calculated to confer and bestow.

“ For, be it known unto thee, Eugenio, that however odd and extravagant it may appear to thy weak, imperfect, mortal judgment and ideas, the ants are the objects of a religion proper and suitable to their faculties, as much as any other animal beings throughout the universe. Such is the near and intimate relation there will ever be found to subsist between the creature
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and the Creator throughout the whole animal system. But to return from this brief digression : These two brothers were originally designed to devote themselves to the concerns of religion amongst their fellow-emmetts, and had their guardian Sylphs appointed them for that very purpose. But such was the texture of their souls, that all the efforts of those beneficent beings were employed in vain to inspire their minds with the bright graces of a pure religion. They were at length constrained to resign their charge to those two malevolent malicious Gnomes, whom thou mayest distinguish continually hovering round about their pineal glands, or brooding over their gloomy breasts : since which time their chief, nay their almost constant employment has been either to over-reach or backbite their fellow-insects.

“ In such sort of practices also you may discover another young lively ant, assiduous to a high degree, if you cast your eyes
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to some small distance from you. Observe how carefully he is studying their arts, and minutely imitating their practices, and treading in their footsteps.

“ At present he is but a candidate for glory, and by no means of the first consideration in the hillock : but it is imagined amongst us æreal beings, that if he proceeds as he hath set out, and continueth to form his mind and improve his talents from the great models he hath made the chief objects of his imitation in the colony, as he hath hitherto done, he will out-strip his predecessors in all those arts and exalted qualities which distinguish the most famous inhabitants of this important state ; and that he will be the most glorious imp of fame amongst the numbers whose names shall deck and adorn the annals of the present times.

“ Such are the chief and most respectable personages which I have presented particularly to your view and observation.

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The rest of the inhabitants of this diminutive spot are, in a very great measure, like the mob of you mortals in your boasted superior state. Actuated by the common passions which animate their frame, they love, they hate; they bless, they curse; they bite, they scratch, they nip, they cheat, they deceive, just according to the predominant passion which rules in them for the present moment, and the immediate peculiar influence of the several Gnomes who preside over and direct their conduct.

“ Nay, if at any time they make an effort extraordinary, and strike out of the beaten path of animal indulgence and gratification, in the pursuit of some generous design, and the execution of some righteous purpose, they are not able to continue long in such a course; but through that awe they entertain for the superior qualities of those ants who rule them, and influenced strongly by the superior power of their Gnomes, they are soon reduced again to
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the common class of emmets, and the usual methods of subsistence in practice with the lowest of their fellow-creatures.

“ Such is the present state of affairs amongst this puny race of animals, not much unlike the mighty bustles and confusion which unhinge, disturb, and destroy the peace, comfort, and tranquility of thine own animal world. And from hence, Eugenio, if thou art judicious, thou mayest learn the best, the wisest, and most wonderful maxims for the regulation and improvement of thine own and thy fellow-creatures conduct, and form no mean ideas, nor any weak and foolish systems, for the direction and government of your mortal sublunary states.

“ For observe, amidst all this bustle and confusion, a great and mighty scene is now opening ; and if thou art but as attentive as thou oughtest to be, thou wilt, I doubt
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not, be enabled to acquire the noblest axioms of conduct, and to set before thine eyes the brightest examples of all those exalted virtues and graces which, according to the systems of your most admired and refined politicians, are deemed the fittest and most proper to preside at the head of national councils, to direct the management of all public affairs, and over-rule the general concerns of the whole community.

“ But before I conduct your eyes to view the great assembly of the nation, which is just now preparing to draw together for the most momentous deliberations, and the execution of the most important projects, it may not be improper to let you a little into the secret constitution of the colony, and the fixed maxims which direct the interior œconomy and government thereof.

“ For though it be a lemma in politics amongst you modern mortals, that there can be no such thing as constitution subsisting

isting absolutely in itself in the nature of things, the body-politic being, like your own human frame, liable to constant and continual alteration, decrease, encrease, and decay; so that it cannot be supposed to continue one single moment precisely the same it was in the preceding one; yet the directors of this little spot in the emmet world, satisfied that it is their duty to preserve the semblance and appearance of some such thing, have substituted in the stead thereof certain axioms and maxims of government, which are contrived and calculated to supply its place, and to repair the wastes which are made by the vicissitude of their affairs in this busy world, to keep up at least a seeming representative of that constitution they pretend to aim at the imitation and preservation of, with a secret view to throw a misty veil over the eyes of their inferiors; that they, beholding the shadow and appearance of a legal administration, may sit down quietly, and without murmuring, under the arbitrary government of those
superior

superior few who, by an exclusive right, privilege, and prerogative, have assumed to themselves the high and glorious character and title of being guardians of the emmet constitution.

“ A few of the more important of these axioms or maxims I shall briefly explain in as familiar and easy a stile and manner as I can ; after which I propose to conduct you to view the great and general council of the colony.

“ I. The first and most important axiom or maxim they have adopted is this : That the supreme power in every well-governed and well-disciplined state, be it great or small, must be entirely absolute, indefeasible, and uncontroulable : that it is not liable to be restrained by any earthly power and might : that its functions are all inviolable ; and that wherever this supreme power is vested, whether in king, priest, great lord, or people, all the inferior in-

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habitants

habitants are bound, by the most indissoluble ties, to pay an absolute and implicit obedience to all its precepts, decrees, and commands, without exception or mental reservation; so that this supreme power may always be in full capacity to inflict condign punishment upon any subject that shall dare to disturb the repose and tranquillity of the sovereign, or that of the chief instruments of his will and pleasure, by any odd contrivances and new-fangled notions, opinions, or doctrines of their own.

“ II. A second axiom or maxim amongst this puny race of animals, no less certain and demonstrable than the former, is, that this same supreme and sovereign power may be delegated also in an indivisible and an indefeasible manner, by its possessor, to any inferior agent or agents, in as full force, and with as ample powers, as the sovereign himself is possessed of it. This plainly following from the first axiom already laid down; because it must be an absolute contradiction.

tradiction in itself to suppose that any sovereign should be possessed of any indefeasible right, and not be permitted to delegate it with as full and ample powers as he himself enjoys it ; and as absurd as for any of you sons of men to maintain that your prince has a power of local motion, but no capacity to move his legs in order to effect it.

“ III. A third axiom, no less certain and important than the former, is, that the sovereign shall ever lay it down as an inviolable rule, to employ only such agents as shall be absolutely and entirely devoted to his will and pleasure, and wholly prepared to execute, without hesitation or the least murmuring, every command that shall be given him ; and that if any agent is not in every respect supple enough to be a slave entirely devoted to the interest of his prince, great lord, or superior, and disposed to run all manner of lengths to promote his advantage, or gratify his pleasure ; such an one is by no means fit to be employed or

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entrusted

entrusted in any part or branch of the sovereign's administration : and that this be laid down as an invariable rule, no less established and practised in all the several subordinate divisions of power, and all the inferior departments of the state, that a regular and consistent uniformity may shine forth through the whole system of government for its good and welfare.

“ IV. A fourth axiom, of the utmost importance to the well-being of every civilized state, and the support of that system of politics now so universally admired and practised through the emmet world, is this, that it be stedfastly resolved by every member of the society who hath any share in the distribution of its power, the execution of its laws, or is a partaker of any of its spoils, that they shall be strictly united in one common resolution to discourage the propagation of knowlege as much as possible, and damp the spirit of free enquiry with all their might, and particularly to use

use their utmost endeavours to check and bridle the over-forward zeal of any of their fellow-emmets, who shall presume to exercise the talents bestowed upon them, either by nature or education, in the instruction and improvement of their fellow-beings, in useful, civil, and practical knowlege; and to do this by every art and contrivance in their power, by intimidating, brow-beating, fining, imprisoning, out-lawing, biting, scratching, nipping, or any other method which shall appear properly calculated to strike the bulk of the people with terror, and spread a proper degree of numbness and torpitude over the understandings of the whole colony, that the subjects may be thereby better fitted and prepared for absolute obedience to superior power, and bear the yoke that shall from time to time be thought fit and proper to be laid upon them without murmuring, or disturbing the peace, tranquillity, and good order of government, by saucy, insolent, or imperti-

nent remonstrances, memorials, or complaints.

“ V. A fifth axiom or maxim which hath been lately introduced, and is in vast vogue and practice, and attended with success far beyond the most sanguine hopes of the leading emmets, is, for all those who are qualified for taking a seat in the great assembly of the colony, to advise, exhort, and encourage their constituents to send from time to time, no matter how often, or upon what trivial occasion, a letter of compliments to the sovereign, signed by the secretary in the name of the body-politic, in which they are to take especial care to insert the most flattering and fulsome epithets and titles; assuring him, that he has infinitely more and greater virtues and graces, both of mind and person, than any of his ancestors; that they have the most perfect acquiescence in his superior knowledge and understanding, in his paternal love, and his fatherly kindness for his people;

people ; and above all other things to assure him, absolutely, and without reserve, that their lives and fortunes are at his service, and depend absolutely upon his will and pleasure. For by this artful practice, these letters of compliment or condolence not only become a kind of security for their own fidelity and loyalty, as it would be shameful to deny in practice, in any future time, what they have solemnly avowed under their hands and seals before time ; but also become a kind of letter of credit to themselves with the emmets in power, to improve their interest, and encrease their weight with them, when they see their constituents so kindly disposed to recommend and support them.

“ VI. A sixth axiom or maxim which hath been also lately adopted, and is now almost universally espoused by all the grantees of the colony, and esteemed a master-stroke in modern politics for the support and aggrandisement of the emmet constitution,

tution, and the maintenance and improvement of the public tranquillity, is this, That all the ants of property in the hillock should avail themselves of a particular improvement lately introduced into the system of arts and sciences amongst them, and to appoint proper emmets to take an actual and exact survey of all their lands, tenements, and granaries, in their present state and condition, however they came by them, or however they may have been improved and amended, repaired and enlarged, by any of the occupiers, at their own cost, expence, labour, and charges ; and after a regular and exact survey, to set such a value upon them as may not only greatly advance and aggrandize their own power, wealth, and influence, but oblige their vassals and tenants to subject themselves and their family to more incessant labours, and an humbler fare, thereby to lower their spirits gradually, and make them more supple and pliant, and oblige them to be more saving and abstemious, that a greater quantity

tity of the more luxurious and valuable provisions of life may be spared for the public markets, and the more convenient support of the gentry of the colony ; it being laid down as a maxim by the whole body of this species of ants, that if every industrious emmet was totally deprived of white bread, butter, and small beer, these necessities would then be procured by them in the market at a cheaper, more moderate, and easy rate.

“ To this axiom is added also, as a corollary, no less clear and demonstrable than all the rest, that in order the more effectually to advance the great design above-mentioned, the greatest encouragement possible ought to be given by all emmets of power and estate in every part of the colony, to the inclosure and improvement of all the open grounds and waste lands of the whole country, provided that proper care be every-where first taken that a sufficient quantity be first set apart, and appropriated
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to the use and sole behoof of the severall chief lords, in consideration of certain exclusive privileges, emoluments, and advantages, said to be given up by the said chief lords for the public benefit and private advantage of every district, but in reality maintained notwithstanding in full force and virtue to them and their partizans, by several penal laws and statutes, which the said great lords have thought proper from time to time to enact and ordain, for the preservation and support of those very privileges they pretend to receive a valuable consideration for the remission of their exclusive right to the same: and also, that the said great lords may be thereby enabled more effectually to humble and reduce the independency of their vassals and tenants within proper bounds, and by means of proper agents become acquainted with the full value of all their appurtenances, so as to enable them to lay upon them such rents and taxes as may effectually secure their dependence, and have, besides, the happiest tendency to
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break their spirits, and make them entirely obedient to all those various rules of good policy which have been established as the wisest maxims of the emmet constitution. I have already in part described to you : and also to answer a farther purpose, to oblige them to pay a more ready, willing, and perfect obedience to those generous and humane laws so lately agreed upon and decreed in the colony, respecting the preservation of several sorts of minute animals, which are said in the emmet law-books to be of the *feræ naturæ* kind.

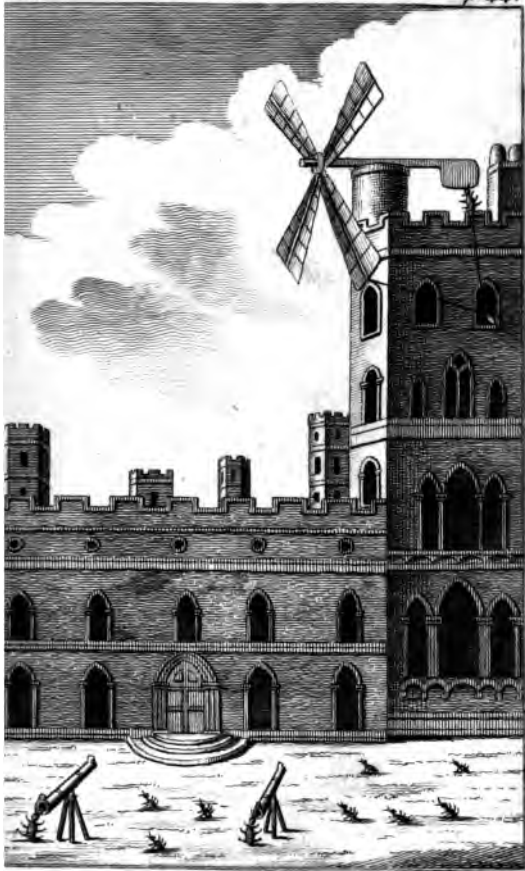
“ VII. But there remains yet another axiom or maxim or two to be described, of almost as much importance as all the rest put together, so as to be justly stiled the grand hinges, upon which alone each wise political emmet constitution can move and turn with steadiness and ease.

“ The first is, the training up the younger emmets, who are selected out in
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order to be entrusted with any of the subordinate compartments of the administration, in the most approved methods of business in all capacities.

“ For this purpose there is a particular academy erected, near the capital seat of the sovereign, to the head master and director of which each candidate for the sovereign’s favour or the state’s emoluments is cautiously recommended.

“ This academy, if you cast your eyes this way, you may observe distinctly enough in the center of the hillock, not far from the sovereign’s own apartments. And though the several particular motions discoverable therein are rather too small to be thoroughly discovered by your sight, as it is not in my power to give you at present the perfect vision of a Sylph ; yet you may distinguish so far plain enough, if you look earnestly, that the discipline of the place is vastly analogous to that of those noble institutions



Hinc illæ Lachrymæ .



stitutions in fashion amongst you mortals, where the rudiments of all science are instilled into young and tender minds at the rate of a penny or three half-pence a week, consisting principally of a court-alphabet, with gilt letters impressed upon gingerbread to be learnt by heart; and the more effectually to answer that purpose, to be eaten by way of encouragement, in order to fix the letters the more strongly upon the mind and memory; it being a most judicious maxim with these masters of discipline, that every thing which affects the sense of eating and gratifies the taste, is so deeply implanted in the soul as never to be entirely eradicated afterwards.

“ There are also, in a different apartment, various kinds of hobby-horses for the exercise of the younger students, to form their bodies as well as their minds into a certain manner and particular air of address, excellently calculated and absolutely

lutely necessary to prepare them for preferment and the grand world.

“ You may observe also, in another apartment, certain white sticks, rods, or wands, placed in horizontal directions, and at different heights, for the use of the several students, according to their different age and abilities, not unlike the leaping frames of your modern hunters in the human world. At these the young academicians are regularly and orderly exercised to leap over or creep under at the word of command, which they are taught to do with the utmost exactness, decency, neatness, and agility, and without the least murmur or hesitation in the world ; nothing being more opposite to the canons of the academy, nor subject to more severe reproofs or condign punishment, than the least refractoriness of spirit, or sullenness of obedience, to the most trifling orders of their masters and superiors.

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“ You may also observe in a fourth apartment, if you look carefully, in a corner of the academy, a very pretty genteel machine, which is particularly appropriated to the amusement of the wealthier sort of ants in the community ; and is generally known amongst them by the name and title of the *flying horse*.

“ This curious engine is not of common use amongst the tutors, nor employed in an undistinguished manner for the amusement or improvement of the whole academy without distinction, as this would be too troublesome, as well as expensive ; but is wisely confined to the service of such emmets only who, by a lucky hit, or any other means whatever, be they what they will, may have chanced to stumble upon some hidden granary of shining sand in the hillock, which enables them to pay largely for a diversion so expensive and so glorious for them.

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“ It is however a piece of discipline in this wise race too remarkable to be omitted in our description of the emmet constitution, though it is not of general or universal use ; I shall therefore endeavour to give you a clear and distinct account of its particular exhibition upon proper occasions.

“ As to its external figure, it needs not much description : you see the nature of it and its frame plain enough, with the fine caparisoned horses and gilt coaches which adorn its outermost circle with streamers flying and ribbands fluttering in the air.

“ This external circle or frame being closely connected with an upright post in its center, is so contrived as by the direction of some particular operator, and the assistance of some secret wheel-work concealed within the ground, to be whirled
swiftly

swiftly round at his pleasure ; so that the horses, the coaches, their riders, and contents, may walk, trot, gallop, or fly, at the word of command ; the several ornaments, trappings, and caparisons of the horses and the carriages, consisting of ribbands, stars, and garters, with a great profusion of lacquer and gilt colourings upon the furniture, mouldings, and cornishes, in a vast variety of tastes, figures, and humours.

“ The method of discipline with this extraordinary machine is as follows : If any wealthy or potent ant (for such only are generally admitted) finds in himself any disposition to take a ride, and exercise himself in this noble diversion, his first business is to apply to the grand operator, either by himself or his agents, to gain his permission, and settle with him the particular terms upon which he shall be allowed to mount, and to fix upon the particular seat he chuses for himself. After this, a suitable

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time

time is generally fixed for the young emmet to mount and perform his exercise, after he hath previously gone through a strict and severe examination before the grand operator himself, or a committee appointed by him for that purpose, whether he hath qualified himself for the exercise according to the rules and statutes of the academy.

“ For this purpose he is usually asked the following questions :

“ Have you got your a, b, c ? and, in imprinting it firmly upon your memory, have you, without restriction or mental reservation, conformed yourself entirely to the rules established for this purpose ? Did you eat it all ? Was it bitter in the mouth, and sweet and easy of digestion in the belly ? Have you performed your due exercises upon the hobby-horse, and taken care to qualify yourself, by a proper application to the study and practice of that machine, for
this

this nobler species of riding which you now solicit for? Have you devoted yourself for a proper season, according to the statutes of the academy, to the service and discipline of the stick, and behaved yourself to the satisfaction of your tutors and superiors in all the exercises of it, from the lowest to the highest rod? and particularly, can you with activity leap over the highest rank at the word of command, or creep under the lowest with equal ease and equal grace, and a becoming alacrity of spirit?

“ To all which questions the candidate having answered satisfactorily in the affirmative, he is then delivered over by the grand operator to some of his subordinate agents, to be led through the several apartments of the academy, to exhibit an example of his thorough proficiency in all the previous exercises thereof: a certificate of which is then drawn up by the said agents; and being duly witnessed by them, is transmitted by them to the grand operator him-

self: upon the receipt of which, orders are directly issued out for making the suitable preparations, and fixing a proper time for the emmet's mounting.

“ When the day appointed is come, and the grand operator fixed at his proper stand, the candidate is introduced between two of his fellow-emmetts, adorned with the proper dress and ensigns of the academy, according to the post appointed for him, whether it be horse or coach; and after he is properly seated in or upon his particular beast or carriage, the machine is first put, for a time, into a slow, gentle, easy motion, which is increased by insensible degrees: so that in a certain course of time it is improved to such a great degree of swiftness and velocity, and that without rest or intermission, that the rider at last is whirled about with such rapidity, that his head becoming giddy by the velocity of the motion, his brain becomes inverted: that part which occupied the occiput now possessing

feeling the inciput, and all his ideas suffering a proportionable alteration, he no longer knows himself as the same being he was when he mounted. He no longer sees any objects as they formerly appeared to him, but as they are now presented to his view through the magic lantern of the grand operator; and when, after a due course of exercise, he is again dismounted, his sight and understanding are so amazingly altered, that he considers all his fellow-emmetts, who happen not to be adorned with the same trappings as himself, as a different species of beings; as much inferior to him as those minute insects which are said to crawl over and feed upon the finest particles of every animal constitution and carcass.

“ Such is, in general, the discipline of this famous academy; but it now and then happens, perhaps once or twice in an age, that some adventurous emmet or other, by mere dint of genius and spirit, obtrudes

himself into the academy by downright violence; despises all the rules and discipline of it, and, without the least application to any of the previous exercises, bounds over all opposition, and leaps into the saddle or the coach in spite of all the arts and machinations of the grand operator, and all the assembled body of his creatures and inferior agents.

“ Upon such an emergency, whenever it happens, the whole party are sure to be seized with such a violent fit of numbness, torpitude, and at last insensibility, that the reins of the machine slipping from the operator’s hands, the high-spirited emmet finds himself at full liberty to exercise himself in his new exaltation, according to his own notions, opinions, and ideas, without being subject (unless he himself pleaseth to imitate a predecessor’s glorious example) to the dreadful consequences of that rapid whirl which the grand operator, whilst he rules the machine, is sure to exercise upon every
every

every emmet who chuseth to ride either by his approbation or connivance.

“ When such a case as I have been describing happens, the most approved method of practice is this : the spirited emmet, after he hath convinced all his fellow-emmetts, in the usual forms, that he hath the perfect use of his faculties, and particularly the free and voluble use of his tongue, provides himself with a *cat-o’nine tails*; with which he is to present himself before the vestibule of the academy, at any time when the grand operator and all his agents shall be most busied, and in the greatest height of their discipline and instructions.

“ He is then in an authoritative tone of voice to demand admittance, without any of the usual forms and ceremonies, which being sure to be denied, as absolutely contrary to the rules and forms of the house, he is then immediately to proceed to flagellation ; and brandishing his weapon high

in air, to lay about him against his opponents with all his might and without distinction, till by his indefatigable pains he is able at last to complete the rout of his antagonists, by the defeat of the grand operator himself; when the field of battle being cleared of enemies, he finds himself in absolute possession, and at free liberty to use the machine according to his own pleasure. But this requiring a most uncommon spirit, and the most distinguished abilities to ensure success against such a multitude and such a variety of opposition; I must confess it is but rarely found put in practice.

“VIII. But I had almost forgot, Eugenio, to describe and represent to you another invention, no less ingenious than it is singular, which hath been contrived within less than a century ago, by the grand operator, or some of his most intimate friends and adherents, with a view to obviate, in the most effectual manner, those
accidental

accidental inconveniences and occasional mortifications he hath found himself at times subject to, by means of those high-spirited emmets I have just hinted at.

“ This contrivance is as follows: On the top of one of the loftiest and tallest pinnacles of the academy, if you look attentively, you may discover a wonderful light and airy machine fastened, in the form of a drum, but considerably larger, with sails fixed to one of its sides, like those of a wind-mill, so contrived, by the help of modern mechanics, as to turn upon a pivot in the center, and present its sails to every point of the compass.

“ In the interior part of this machine are contained three various kinds of movements to work three pair of mill-stones; distinguished by the following names; the bullion mill, the paper mill, and the annihilating mill; each of which, when set to work
by

by the direction of the grand operator, produce regularly their proportionable advantages to the service, as he and his agents generally please to phrase it.

“ The first of these mills is solely employed in the management and regulation of the shining sand and actual specie of the colony; and as the screws are set straiter or more relaxed, it is made to produce, when set to work, more or less, both in quantity and quality, according to the particular directions of that emmet who is principally intrusted with the immediate care of its operations; so that the shining sand of the country may be enhanced or diminished in its intrinsic value, or increased or decreased in its quantity and plenty, at the secret pleasure of the grand operator: by which means it generally happens, that those bold geniuses who are so fertile in disturbing the great emmet’s administration are kept within proper bounds, and restrained

restrained within proper degrees of apprehension, lest their impetuous spirits should introduce a public bankruptcy into the colony ; so that they are obliged to remain quiet, out of pure affection to their country's safety.

“ But should any party of opposition, being aware of the deep-laid stratagem, become so powerful, by uniting together, as to collect within themselves a sufficient quantity of shining sand to circulate for the uses of the colony, to preserve a proper par of exchange throughout the whole territory, without the intervention of the grand operator ; so that his power and dignity seems to be at a stand, and in danger of being reduced to its original insignificance ; he, upon any such emergent occasion, has immediate recourse to his second mill, called the paper-mill ; the main design and purpose of which is, by a proper application of the magic art of trans-

transmutation, to grind down all the shining sand and specie of the colony he can get into his hands, into small portions and scraps of paper, of a peculiar texture and form, marked with certain mysterious hieroglyphical figures, impressed upon them in a particular manner by the master of the mill, at the direction of the grand operator himself, in order that they may be seen and known again, and according to their private marks have their worth and value raised or lowered, agreeable to their particular will and pleasure for the time being.

“ These scraps of paper the operator and his under workmen diligently distribute through the colony, and particularly to that species of the people who are known to possess the most considerable treasures of shining sand in their private hoards and granaries, delivering along with them a small fragrant sugar-plum, generally of an excellent taste and flavour, calculated to
put

put the bulk of the ants in good humour, and prevail upon the richest of them to uncover their hid treasures ; and, upon the good faith and promises of the operator, to exchange them with him for a proportionable share of these bits and scraps of paper, which he engages, by means of suitable agents, to receive again at a proper and convenient season ; that is, when it best suits himself and his schemes, as so much shining sand and specie of the colony : by these powerful charms, sweetening and soothing the tempers and dispositions of his fellow-emmets ; that they being, each for themselves, lulled into a pleasing security, may be proof against the vile insinuations of all those implacable emmets, whom neither flattery nor terrors, neither soothing nor scourging, can intimidate from interrupting him with all their might in the wholesome exercises of his academical processes.

“ But,

“ But, should he even find himself defeated in the prosecution of this well-contrived scheme, either by the agility, abilities, industry, or number of his enemies, he is by no means without resources (such is the fertility of an emmet’s genius) but has resource to his third mill, which in their language is called the annihilating mill.

“ The methods in practice with this machine, which hath met with the greatest approbation in all well-polished ant-hillocks, ever since the days of Machiavel, are these: Upon any emergent occasion, when the paper-currency of the colony begins to be attended with obstructions and palpitations, and to manifest a limp in its gait, through the various parts of the hillock; the grand operator usually calls together a general assembly of all the members of the academy who have had a regular initiation and education in the rules and
disci-

discipline of it ; at which all are obliged to attend who have been sworn fellows of the society, to consider of ways and means to preserve and maintain the grand operator's greatness and their own importance, under the usual pretext of the public welfare, and the safety and prosperity of the state.

“ At this assembly some scheme or other is contrived, by some active emmet, of getting in as much paper-currency as possible at a low price, and then conveying them to the third mill, where they grind them down to smaller shreds than before, altering their form and texture in such an artful manner, that there may be an absolute *deceptio visus* in the case ; after which they come out of the mill, converted into a kind of small tickets, and then distributed back again amongst the chief adherents of the society, and so gradually circulated as new coin and new currency to all parts of the hillock, with an additional note of encouragement to every adventurer, that at a certain

certain time, publicly specified, every individual of them may be assured, upon the public faith of the community, that at the small and trifling hazard of 500,000 to 1, every ticket shall increase ten thousand times in value.

“ And if it should so happen that, notwithstanding the odds are so small and inconsiderable, the adventurer should miscarry in his chance, or be disappointed in his hopes, that he shall not suffer the loss of all his expectations entirely, but for a certain time, or during the term of an emmet's natural life, shall, through the extreme generosity and beneficence of the grand operator, be allowed to exchange, at the worst of hazards, every ten or twelve grains of shining sand he shall think proper to entrust him with the care and management of, for five or six grains of the same substance, if he is prudent enough to make the exchange in time, before the
period

period comes, when a sudden gust of wind upon the sails of the wind-mill shall whirl them about with such amazing rapidity, as to reduce, in the twinkling of an eye, every individual scrap remaining in the mill to an impalpable powder, which the wind disperses abroad without the least possibility of recollection. By this means the operator is securely furnished, not only with the proper funds for the support and maintenance of the general welfare and prosperity, but also for the private and secret services of the academy, and the gentleman's maintenance and support of all the various masters and tutors employed therein, and for all the necessary out-goings occasioned by the expence laid out in keeping the building in good and respectable condition and repair. And what is of infinite more consequence and advantage than all the rest put together, he is by such a method furnished with the best and most approved receipts that have hitherto been

F invented

invented or thought of for repelling and defeating all the machinations of his implacable enemies, by a suitable, timely, and regular distribution of those savings which accrue to himself by this artful and important contrivance, annihilating by such practices all their weight, influence, and power, in the community of emmets.

“ Such, Eugenio, are the grand and fundamental principles of this greatly celebrated emmet constitution ; such the mighty and important axioms which are the foundations of the practical part of its government and policy ; from the knowlege of which already communicated, and the farther lights that I shall hereafter occasionally furnish you with for your farther instruction, you will be enabled to form a good and rational judgment of the confusions of the hillock, and of the conduct and actions of those
dis-

distinguished emmets I have already described as the chief managers and directors of the body-politic of this industrious race, and the motives upon which they seem to build both their ideas and their actions.

“ For this purpose, Eugenio, direct thine eyes to that spacious area thou observest in the center of the hillock ; in the midst whereof stands an ancient, but noble and venerable structure, supposed to be erected when a Gothic or a Vandal race of ants enjoyed the supreme government and direction of the country. To this building, observe, all the ants of figure and note in the territory are just now flocking.

“ Whilst they are assembling and seating themselves according to their several ranks and posts in the community, I will take the opportunity of giving thee a succinct account of the motives of their coming together in so extraordinary a manner,

and upon such an extraordinary occasion, in as plain and familiar a manner as I can devise.

“ I will then make thee invisible by my superior power, and transport thee into the assembly itself, where thou shalt see, hear, and admire at, with wonder and astonishment, the acuteness, artlessness, sagacity, disinterestedness, beneficence, public spirit and generosity, which so conspicuously shine forth in all the harangues of this august and venerable assembly.

“ Know then, Eugenio, that the prime cause of this extraordinary assembly now drawing together is that long track or open path-way, which thou mayest observe uniteth the extremest and most distant parts of the colony together.

“ This track hath been a long time in forming, executing, and completing, and
hath

hath been a very great and considerable expence, particularly to that part of the inhabitants who have their habitations and granaries most to the east end of the colony, as they were obliged, on account of the western parts being very thinly inhabited, to find all the tools and materials necessary both for making and keeping open the said communicating track, and maintaining the same from time to time in good and reasonable repair.

“ This the wiser sort amongst them submitted to without repining, from a full conviction that, as soon as the communication should be completed, and the scheme fully executed, and the western part of the hillock fully and sufficiently inhabited and cultivated, it would open a new and glorious road that could never be stopped up, through which they might convey and transport with pleasure, and at their ease, all their own superfluities, and the various

produce of their industry at the east end, and exchange them there for those various necessaries which were to be found in abundance in the western parts, in such a vast profusion and variety as should enable them to supply all the various hillocks in the emmet world with whatever they had to spare, at their own option and their own prices, so as to aggrandize and enrich themselves according to their own pleasure, industry, or abilities, consistent with the general welfare of trade and commerce.

“ But it so happened, that during the period whilst this main track was completing, a neighbouring colony of white emmets, having taken it into their heads that hats were a much better and a more profitable wear, both for the male and female emmets, than either woollen, worsted, or leather caps could possibly be ; and having discovered a small rill of water which run to the north-west of the red emmets settlements,

ments, they established there a small factory of emmets of their own cast on the north side of this rill, with a secret design, in a course of years, to hem in and confine the red emmets within the southern bounds of the same rill, and by that means cut off their communication with every distant ant-hillock of the black sort to the north, without whose assistance this manufactory of hats could not be completely executed and carried on.

“ By this means they proposed to engross the whole trade to themselves, at the same time that they prevented their neighbour-emmets and rivals in the art and occupation of hat-making, from maintaining any farther intercourse with the black emmets, to dispose of their luxuries and superfluities amongst them.

“ They proposed to themselves also another considerable advantage from this plan,

the sooner to extirpate their rivals ; and that was, to offer a kind of public reward to be paid every black ant for every red emmet's proboscis which they could procure and cut off in hunting, thereby depriving them of the most useful member about them, without which they could neither dry, delve, nor hoard up at all ; flattering themselves by these practices, that in two or three emmet generations they should be able, either wholly to extirpate their enemies from that part of the "hillock, or oblige them to renounce their allegiance to the eastern ants, from whence they originally sprung, and submit to their power and jurisdiction.

“ They availed themselves also, for the same purpose in the further execution of this scheme, of some grievous political blunders of their neighbours, whilst they were settling these new plantations ;

these latter having, through an impetuous desire of completing their designs in the speediest, and, as they thought, the most effectual manner, endeavoured to plant the various parts of this west end of the colony with a confused collection of all sorts of emmets, from any hillock, wherever they could find any of the inhabitants disposed to migrate ; so that this part of the settlement was a strange motly mass of all colours, sizes, and sorts, without distinction ; by which means the settlement was deprived of that political noose which ties other emmet communities together so effectually ; I mean that which is understood, in the language of you mortals, by the name of *amor patriæ*.

“ Hence sprung the following mischief, that each set, sect, and party, would only mind their own concerns and granaries, without respecting the public weal ; and so becoming a confused, disorderly, disjointed

jointed rabble, their neighbours the white and black emmets might be encouraged, without any apprehensions of drawing the weight and strength of the whole colony upon them, by straggling parties, and constantly hovering upon the out-skirts of their settlements, proceed regularly in the execution of their plan, by cutting off occasionally any particular sets or companies who might, through lust of gain, spread and plant themselves beyond the line of defence, originally designed for the protection of the hillock against all foreign invaders, and particularly the black ants who lay next them.

“ So that their design, for the causes assigned, far exceeded in its progress and execution the most sanguine expectations of the most violent spirits amongst them; the several disjointed parts of the colony leaving their frontier unprotected, either because they apprehended themselves at a
con-

considerable distance from the danger, or because they had some of them taken it into their heads that it was a mortal sin to fight, or even bite or scratch their greatest and most inveterate enemies; or because a considerable number of pied emmets, having no home of their own to run to in case of invasion, and having settled thereabout by chance almost in a fit of despair, thought it matter of indifference whether they were subject to the orders of the red or white ants, provided they could enjoy their private hoards in quiet. In these sentiments they were also farther confirmed from a hope they pleased themselves with, that by a clandestine correspondence with the latter, they should have greater opportunities of enlarging and stocking their granaries than they could ever expect to have by any commerce with their original patrons and protectors.

“ Whilst

“ Whilst things were thus circumstanced, the white emmets found this well-contrived scheme of theirs also greatly assisted in the execution by another particular in the political conduct of those ants who had, in former times, held the sovereign power in the eastern parts of the red emmet domains.

“ For they, by virtue of some peculiar idea they had formed to themselves of the prerogatives annexed to their high dignity, had been accustomed, upon the most trifling application, and without the least hesitation, to grant out to any court emmet who was skilled in the mysterious arts of intriguing, such or such a portion, known and unknown, of the west end of the hillock, as they should think proper to inhabit and cultivate by themselves or their friends, without paying the least regard to any ants who might already be in possession, or expressing the least shadow of a doubt
of

of their own almighty indefeasible power to dispose of at their own absolute will and pleasure, any tracts of the ant-hillock that might be mentioned to them as lying vacant, without ever seeing or knowing them, with as ample power and authority as those parts which had by mutual compact been, time immemorial, subject to their sovereignty.

“ From this ill-judged maxim naturally sprung up a variety of interests and views, which not only greatly interfered with and contradicted one another, but greatly impeded and embarrassed the protection of the settlement against their foreign enemies ; each court ant who chanced to obtain a portion for himself, confining his whole care to make the most of his own, without the least attention either to the safety or prosperity of his next neighbours, or the security of those ants whom he had prevailed upon to begin new nests in those territories

ritories which he had begged, bought, or perhaps stole for himself.

“ By this means the ditch of defence, designed to be thrown up for the security of the hillock, being every now and then neglected or interrupted, vast wide openings were left for the white and black emmets to harraß the extreme parts of the settlements with the most barbarous inroads and incurßions, without any possibility of restraining or repulßing their impetuosity.

“ In this condition affairs continued until the white emmets had nearly completed the first part of their design ; and it has been thought they would have executed the whole in one or two summers more, had they not been prevented by a very untoward accident which they little expected.

“ The

“ The sovereign then upon the throne of the red emmets happened to be of a better breed and race than those who had formerly possessed the same post. He was a great lover of his country and his people, and an implacable enemy to the whole race of white ants, as the constant disturbers of the peace and tranquility of the emmet world, and implacable to all their fellow-insects who refused to be dyed the same colour as themselves.

“ This gracious, beneficent, and wise sovereign, upon hearing the report of all these atrocious proceedings from some of his faithful servants, and being also made acquainted with the defenceless state of this part of the hillock, resolved to take upon himself the effectual protection of his western frontier, and provide for the peace, protection, and security of his subjects, by totally expelling and driving out the whole race of white ants from that side of the
hillock,

hillock, as they had given him such a righteous cause and reason (when the many plausible pretexts they had given him before would have been sufficient for any other sovereign to have proceeded upon to action, as the sovereigns of the emmet world now go), why he should exert his utmost power to extirpate those mischievous ants, whose vileness and inhumanity had been so great as to induce them to make the firmest alliances, and form the closest connections with an ant-eating race to annoy and destroy his peaceable, faithful, and industrious subjects.

“ Animated with such a laudable resolution, he ordered a sufficient defence to be transported to his distressed people, and his power to be properly exerted for their deliverance, by the particular advice, and at the particular expence of the ants inhabiting the eastern parts of his dominions.

“ By

“ By these powerful succours the white emmets were in a short space driven from all their roguish purposes, and to their mortification found all their machinations defeated, by the superior spirit and bravery of their antagonists, directed by wise, sagacious, and prudent councils; and soon compelled to give up and surrender, absolutely and for ever, all their villainous schemes and designs, and totally relinquish the settlements they had formed upon the main land on that side of the hillock.

“ They did not indeed give up all these mighty things without a struggle, though their utmost efforts were vain. They exerted their utmost strength, arts, and policy, for which they are so famed in the emmet world. Nay, they had the address to draw in the brown emmets, their neighbours to the south, to espouse their cause and abet their designs, contrary to all rules of sound policy, as well as the faith of

G treaties;

treaties ; but their weak assistance did nothing at all : unprepared and unprovided for an offensive war, they could not defend themselves from the attacks of the red emmets at all ; so that their rashness soon met with its deserved reward ; and they, after a sound and hearty drubbing, were obliged to submit to the conqueror's terms, and reduced to the disagreeable necessity of giving up large tracts of territory lying in the same quarter, as a punishment of their impotent malice, and a just reward of their insidious schemes.

“ Upon the offer of such large concessions from both parties, generous terms of pacification were stipulated and agreed upon by all parties, and every thing seemed to tend to the improvement and aggrandizement of the red emmet dominions, when it happened that the brown emmets, taking the advantage of the appearance of some bustle, confusion, and disturbance,
in

in the councils of the colony, thought it prudent to avail themselves of a particular article inserted in the terms of pacification, in order to evade the execution of the other terms as long as possible; and accordingly began to make heavy and grievous complaints that the red emmets, in the western part of the hillock, had, for time immemorial, under sundry false pretences, maintained an illegal and clandestine correspondence with the western subjects of his brown emmet majesty, upon the main land, in the neighbourhood of their chief and capital settlements; whereby great enormities were committed, and inexpressible injury was done to the revenue and income both of the sovereign and the state.

“ They also urged, that if the red emmets had that regard for sound faith and integrity which they made such strong profession of, and of which they had in-

deed given, upon various occasions, the strongest and most undoubted proofs, they ought to put an immediate end to all such clandestine correspondence and illegal practices.

“ These remonstrances being luckily well timed and properly laid before the then directors of the academy, and falling in with their own high prerogative notion of things, they determined to enforce the remonstrance, and prevail upon the sovereign to consent to the prayer of it, and by his own prerogative to issue orders for that purpose to the west end of the hillock, though it was most apparently the greatest injury and hurt that could possibly be done to the interests of his subjects in that part of the emmet world ; and accordingly peremptory orders were transmitted over for that very purpose.

“ In

“ In fact (that I may leave you ignorant of nothing, Eugenio, that has any tendency to give a clear and distinct idea of the foundation of the present disorders and commotions) the case between them absolutely stood thus, when developed of those artful disguises that have been thrown over it by the principal managers on both sides. The red emmets, in the course of their improvements in trade and manufactures at the east end of the colony, found it would be of the greatest advantage to both to acquaint their fellow-ants in the west, that one of the principal works they ought to employ themselves in was, the careful and diligent gathering in and collecting all the red chips they could possibly find, and transport them, as a most precious commodity, to their patrons and protectors in the east. Pursuant to these directions, after diligent search, they found the best and the most numerous upon certain waste lands and territories which bordered

dered upon the dominions of the brown ants, where, for the better collection of them, they fixed a small settlement, and established a few of their own people upon that part of the continent, having first made an alliance for the same purpose, upon the prudent terms of civil compact, with a few straggling independent emmets who had burrowed here and there in the country, and owned no jurisdiction but their own, stipulating upon reasonable terms for all reasonable assistance in the business.

“ About the same period of time it happened that the sovereign of the brown emmets took it into his head that he was infinitely better qualified to carry on trade and merchandize than any of his subjects; and that if he engrossed the traffick of his colonies into his own hands, his subjects would gain a great deal more profit, and trade with much greater security, as well as advantage, as his factors, than if they
venture

ventured upon their own foundations; especially as the staple commodity of the west end of his dominions chiefly consisted of shining sand, which, as his favourites told him, he ought to secure in his own hoard, that he might dispose of it again to advantage, by obliging his subjects to take what they wanted from him at his own valuation and prices.

“ Upon these wise and political maxims, he accordingly issued out, in a very pompous manner, an ordonnance to all the emmet colonies round about, who were in friendship and alliance with him, specifying, that he intended to take the trade of his colonies into his own hands: that he had or would provide a sufficient number of carriages to convey any emmets who chose to be his factors, and their merchandize, from one part of the colony to another: that he would take care they should
be

be got ready at a certain place : that he would give them notice of the time when he intended the carriages should set off : that they had nothing else to do but to transport themselves and their goods for trade to the place appointed : that he would take care when they were there, they should be loaded ready for conveyance to such parts of the colonies as he should judge most convenient for his own emolument and advantage : and that for all these mighty privileges and advantages, which he had so prudently contrived for their benefit and their ease, he would only ask and stipulate for himself about one fifth part of the value of their effects for all his trouble and expences ; they first engaging to fit and furnish all his viceroys, deputies, and servants, with what they wanted, at a stated price, to prevent them exacting too much profit from this part of his subjects, and paying them a certain rate and duty for
leave

leave to trade with the other four fifths, or so much as they should have to spare, after his chosen servants were supplied and fitted, with the rest of his subjects; from whom, if they acted prudently, and in concert with his ministers, they might make up all deficiencies arising from these stipulations, by extorting so much the more for their goods from those emmets who maintained themselves by their own industry, without having any concerns with the interior government of that part of the colony; and by such a system of merchandize, he proposed to prevent his factors from carrying off too much shining sand to their own boards, without first letting him, and his agents and favourite servants, partake of the profits and advantages that accrued therefrom.

“ Such, Eugenio, is the wise and ingenious system of politics which the sovereign

reign of the brown emmets hath long pursued, so egregiously contrived for the vast encrease and improvement of his wealth, and the no less astonishing aggrandizement of the power and glory of his dominions.

END of VOL. I.

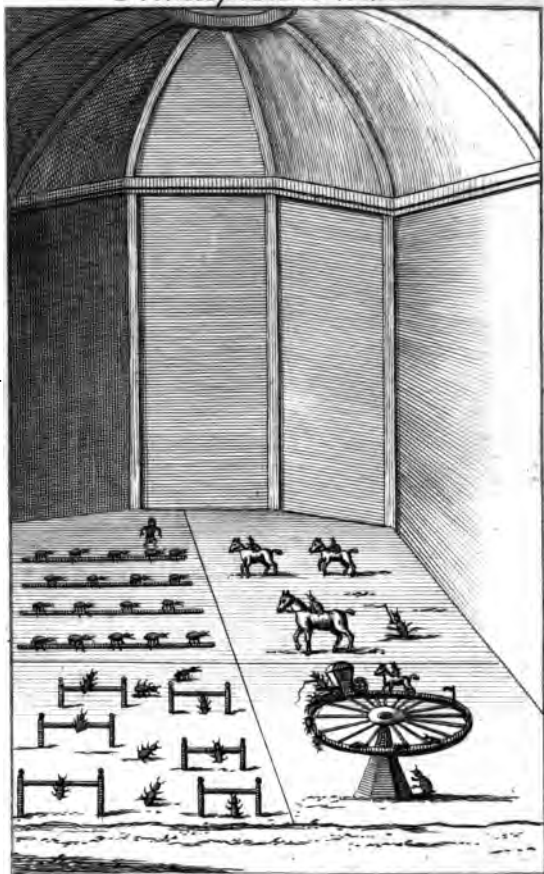
E R R A T A.

Page 12. line 17. read *appointed* ; p. 13. l. 9. read
administer.





Frontispiece to Vol. II.



Hæc Via fertur ad Astra *See T.I. p. 45*

THE
AN T S:

A
RHAPSODY.



T H E
A N T S :
A
R H A P S O D Y.

V O L. II.

Habet et Musca Splenem. *Æsop.*

To expose Vice, and make people laugh with
Innocence, does more public service than all
the Ministers of State from Adam to Walpole.

SWIFT.

L O N D O N :

Printed for L. DAVIS and C. REYMERS, in Holborn ;
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in Pater-noster-Row.

MDCCLXVII.





T H E
A N T S.

“ **T**HE red emmets, however, who were employed in the collecting and gathering red chips in the neighbouring parts, quickly observed, that the inferior sort of brown ants, who are the most valuable part in every industrious and mercantile community, were by this method of traffic subject to great and violent oppressions. They, therefore, went privately to pay some of them a visit, and took the liberty to tell them that they were scandalously

VOL. II. B abused

abused and imposed upon : that their governors, their officers, and overseers, were nothing better than a pack of grand villains and rascals : that they picked their pockets in a most infamous manner, without the least remorse and shame : that if they would now and then, when they came upon that coast to gather chips, bring them a little of that shining sand, they would give them twice as much, and twice as good of any thing they wanted, as their fellow-subjects would condescend to give them, and get a better profit to themselves into the bargain.

“ Proposals of such mutual advantage as these appeared to be, you may naturally suppose would be most readily agreed to by every ant that had common sense, or the least pretences to a common understanding, or the smallest skill in the nature of trade and commerce ; and accordingly the agreement was carried into execution-
for

for a considerable time, to the mutual advantage of the private inhabitants of both hillocks, and the vast encrease of their private hoards and granaries, till the grandees of the brown colony perceiving they had not so good a market for their commodities (the sale of which they had engrossed to themselves) as they used to have, took the alarm, and resolved to search into the matter, and, upon examination, found the fact to be as I have related.

“ No sooner had they made the important discovery, than they resolved to lodge a most violent and virulent complaint before their sovereign lord the king, setting forth, that his majesty’s liege subjects in their parts, and their red neighbours had entered into a secret combination, under the artful pretence of gathering red chips upon their coasts, to pick his majesty’s pocket in a most shameful

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manner,

manner, and engross all the shining sand in the country to themselves ; so that, in all probability, in a little time, if they were suffered to go on as they had done, they should not be able, with all their fidelity, to save the least bit for his own private benefit, use, and advantage, or the support of his table : that, therefore, it behoved him, both for his honour, his credit, and his interest, to exert the powers which God had given him to remedy these mischiefs, that his good and faithful dependents, officers and servants, might not be reduced to poverty ; and his mean, beggarly subjects, by such mistaken politics, be allowed to roll and wallow themselves in riches, happiness, and plenty : that the best method he could hit upon would be to send a private order to his several viceroys and governors at the west end of his dominions, to seize all the carriages of the red emmets they could meet with, and rifle them of all they had, and
by

by such rigorous measures intimidate them from coming near his majesty's dominions, with any such wicked and villainous intentions ; for by this means they doubted not to engross all the trade of the colony into their own hands, as they had done before, and be enabled soon to save all the shining sand of the settlement for themselves and their master.

“ The advice was wonderfully relished at the brown ant court. The orders were dispatched, and the red emmets were plundered wherever any of them could be caught.

“ This occasioned a vast variety of complaints and squabbles, and some ruptures from time to time, between the two colonies, until, upon the conclusion of the last great squabble, it was mutually agreed on both sides, that the red ants should have an absolute right to gather red chips

6 THE ANTS.

in that part of the country in what manner they pleased ; but at the same time their governors should promise for them, and stake their good faith for the performance, that they should have no manner of intercourse at all with the brown ants in the neighbourhood, to the prejudice of his brown majesty, his viceroys, or his agents, upon any account, or for any consideration whatever, but only quietly gather their chips and away.

“ This stipulation appears accordingly to have been agreed to, however contrary to the maxims of sound policy and prudence, by the influence of some few noble red ants, who had wriggled themselves with vast art into the favour of their sovereign, to the great dissatisfaction, disgust, and uneasiness of the private subjects of both colonies, who were thus deprived of the greatest mutual advantage and benefit that can possibly be obtained by trade
and

and merchandize, a mutual exchange of the superfluities of each colony upon even and equitable terms.

“ In order to put this secret article into more complete execution, it was also privately stipulated and agreed upon by the junto of red emmets then in possession of the power and favour of the sovereign, that an order should be sent to the west end of the hillock, to all the red ants who dwelt in those parts, commanding, that they presume not any longer, upon any account, to carry away any of their superfluities, or their rubbish, however they may be cumbered with them, to any other hillock but their own ; and particularly that they should not, upon any account, dare to trade either with the white or the brown emmets, or furnish them with the least stick of wood, or morsel of victuals, not even to keep them from starving, however advantageous it might

be to the granaries of both, and to the public emolument of that part of the colony where they inhabited, that they might have no pretence to charge us any longer with stealing their shining sand, upon any consideration; but rather leave it to the frogs which swarmed about them, than to be guilty of such base and unmannerly practices.

“ It is also thought to have been further agreed upon by the said junto, that at the next great meeting of the general assembly of the colony, a certain decree should be drawn up, and by their weight and influence carried into execution, the more effectually to enforce these salutary measures, and to convince their honest and candid neighbours, the white and brown emmets, that they valued their own good faith, integrity, and private promises, infinitely above the mean and paltry considerations of their country’s welfare,

fare, their sovereign's glory, or the ease and prosperity of millions of their fellow-subjects.

“ This decree, it is supposed, they engaged should oblige all the red emmets upon the western side of the hillock not to plant or improve any lands, not to erect or purchase any granaries, not to establish any new hoards, not to transplant any timber or victuals from one colony to another, or even to the east end of the hillock, without first engaging to pay down upon the nail, for the sovereign's use, a certain quantity of that same shining sand they were absolutely deprived of the means of procuring by the late order of the junto, under this plausible pretence: That as the east part of the country had been put to a mighty expence in protecting the western frontier, and driving out the white emmets from all their possessions and encroachments in those parts, they ought
to

10. THE ANTS.

to contribute a proportionable share of that expence ; and besides the support of their own interior governments and feignories, send all the shining sand they remained possessed of away to the east end of the colony, where alone they knew how to make a proper use and advantage of it : though at the very same juncture it was a well-known truth in all parts of the hillock, that the industry of the western ants, merely from the labour of their snouts and their claws, supplied the government with at least a sixth part of all the expences they laid out in its support, in all parts of the colony whatever, over and besides the vast opportunity they gave the subjects on that side of the hillock, of trading with the fruits of their industry, to their unspeakable advantage, with all the neighbouring ant hillocks around them.

“ In pursuance of this resolution, a decree of this sort was actually drawn up, presented

sented to the assembly, and carried thro' with mighty little opposition, by the superior art and address of the junto; and in due time, by their influence, it also obtained the sovereign's approbation; they having solemnly assured their master that it was impossible to hit upon, or contrive a more effectual method of preventing these western subjects of his from ever revolting, or asserting their own independency, than by obliging them gradually to part with all their shining sand, by insensible degrees, and confine as much as possible all the timber and grain which they were possessed of in their own store-houses; that if they were never so much disposed to rebel, they might be deprived of every means which are thought most suitable and proper for the support of any ant colony in their disobedience to their sovereign's authority, will, and pleasure.

“ Misled by such plausible and artful insinuations, the sovereign gave his royal assent

sent to the decree, which was then confirmed in the usual forms ; for what sovereign is proof against flattery, or the artful insinuations and reasonings of those about him, when they are inclined to impose upon his judgment, and mislead his footsteps ?

“ Not the best of sovereigns, amongst you mortals, are proof at all times against the powerful magic and enchantment of their forceries.

“ Not even your own present sovereign, Eugenio, whom my brother Sylphs boldly declare to be the best and most humane of princes, would have been able to resist the flatteries and importunities of his pretended friends and favourites about him, had they been urged and enforced with half that unwearied vehemence and steady artfulness this junto of the ants made use of to influence their master’s judgment, and ensnare his approbation to their deep laid and interested schemes.

“ But

“ But no sooner did the day arrive, appointed for putting the decree into execution in the west end of the hillock, than every place became a scene of public confusion, tumult, and dismay. Resolved to oppose its execution, or perish in the attempt, the ants on that side kept no measures at all with any of those officers who were declared executors of the decree; and the communication between the two parts of the hillock being naturally stopt by so violent an opposition, the ants at the east end soon took the alarm; and that not without the most weighty reasons, because they knew, and were persuaded, they had no other prospect, if the long track continued stopt up, but that themselves and families must soon be in a starving condition, by thus imprudently clogging and blocking up that noble outlet, which they and their ancestors before them had been at so much pains and expence to lay open, enlarge, and improve.

“ In short, such was the rage and resentment of all the industrious ants, in all parts of the colony, that after the most violent debates, and the warmest contests in the grand assembly of the colony, where chief armed against chief, with swords made of metal points, defied one another to the field of battle ; the cries of an injured people were heard, the prayers of the colony prevailed, and the mild, beneficent, and gracious sovereign of the hillock, after declaring his assent to the abolition of this most intolerable burden, was conducted by numberless multitudes, amidst the joyful acclamations of a happy people, to his own apartment, as the true, affectionate, and benevolent father of the hillock.

“ And it is in pursuance of the repeal of this decree, Eugenio, that the several members of any importance in the colony are drawing together again, as you see, to
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the grand assembly, to consult upon the properest ways and means of repairing the deficiencies caused in the finances of the state thereby, and warding off the fatal blow pretended to be given to the legislative power of the sovereign, and his great assembly, over these parts of his dominions.

“ By this time, it is probable, they are seated in their respective posts : I will conduct thee into the assembly secretly, if thou pleasest, that thou mayest hear the sentiments and reasonings of this seemingly mean and diminutive, but in reality this wise and politic race of animals.”

Upon the philosopher's expressing his desire to be introduced, the Sylph gently taking him up by the tip of the ear, after first sprinkling him over with a small quantity of the fluid he carried in his vial, Eugenio found himself instantaneously

ously conveyed into the midst of a grand assembly, indeed ; where the Sylph, perching upon a small ledge in the roof, and supporting the philosopher with his left hand, whilst he pointed the fore finger of his right before him, softly addressed him in the following manner :

“ Thou seest, Eugenio, that tall emmet who sitteth in a conspicuous place in the midst of the assembly : he is, that haughty overbearing emmet whom I pointed out to thee before in the hillock : his name is Meridarpax. The post he possesseth in the direction of the state, is that of law-keeper to his sovereign ; a post of vast importance and consequence to the welfare and peace of the state, as he is the representative of his master, and the sole prosecutor in his name of all the breaches committed against the peace and quiet of the colony, by any impudent or impertinent emmets, whether by overt
acts

acts or secret innuendos, by public rebellion or private opposition, either against the practice or the opinions of the prince, the prime lords of the colony, and the favourites of the sovereign. For these important reasons he is considered of very great consequence to the support of every grand operator, who is so happy as to arrive at the exalted station of directing the flying horse.

“ Observe, also, that sprightly emmet which sits not far from him. He is named Troxartes : thou wilt easily know him again : he is the same industrious emmet I pointed out to thee some time ago. This chief possesseth, in like manner, a considerable place in the sovereign’s favour and the departments of the government, being the sole and supreme judge in all matters relating to his master’s own private estate and income ; and in every dispute which may respect the same, with

any of his fellow-subjects, he is authorized to judge in a summary way, according to his own discretion, and the high power and authority vested in him, without being subject to the least controul, except it be to the sovereign will and pleasure of his own master, or his particular favourites and intimates.

“ Vested with such power and influence, you may naturally suppose he must have great weight and authority in the academy ; so large a portion of the sovereign’s rents and revenues being subject to his inspection, before they are remitted for the support and benefit of the masters and tutors thereof. This makes him an emmet of great weight in the administration.

“ The next remarkable personage I shall recommend to your observation, is that tallish slender emmet, who sits to the

right, at some distance from the former, seemingly in earnest conversation with some elder ants, from whom he is now receiving private notes and directions for his conduct in the high post to which he hath lately been advanced; that under the influence of his noise, his spirit, and intrigues, assisted by his rawness and inexperience in the true conduct of affairs, abler and more artful heads may securely direct the secret operations of the state, and make themselves compleat masters of the purse of their sovereign lord, however obnoxious they may seem both to him and his people.

“ His name is Hypsibeas. The post he enjoys is that of receiving, disbursing, and accounting for all the shining sand and scraps of paper which are granted by the great assembly of the colony, for the better support of its peace and prosperity, both at home and abroad; his office is

also to make out and direct all the necessary secret exhibitions and out-goings, for the maintaining and preserving the quiet, good temper, and good humour of any turbulent emmets; who by the direction, and at the instigation of their several malicious Gnomes; may be pert and saucy enough to perch themselves upon the wheels of the government carriages, and clog, obstruct, or retard their motions. He is also to furnish all the oil which is necessary to soften and supple the harness and tackling of the machines of the academy, that every part thereof may run smooth, clever, and with ease. If you observe his countenance, you may clearly discover his self-importance, and the high sentiments he entertains of his abilities, and his present honours and dignity. It is true, he hath not yet gone through all the academical exercises; but as he is vastly assiduous in conforming himself to its discipline, and studying its rules with
the

the utmost diligence, it is not doubted, but in due time, when he is permitted to mount, he will outstrip all his predecessors in spirit, fame, and glory, as I told you before he was likely to do, when I pointed him out to you as an imp of fame, in one of the private walks of the colony.

“ The next emmet of note thou mayst distinguish, is seated at a distance to the right. He appears to be in the prime of his years, and is one of the principal persons, who, of late, have engrossed the favour of their sovereign. The post he enjoys is that of letter-writer, and the director of his master’s secret correspondence in all the various parts of the emmet world. For this reason the emmet who enjoys this post is generally complimented with the magnificent title of grand-operator of the flying-horse, as being entrusted with the sovereign’s choicest secrets, and master of his most chosen

purposes and designs. The name which his fellow-ants have given him is that of Seutlæus. Uncertain and unsteady in his views and his pursuits, as I have already described him, and not to be depended upon, either in his friendships or his enmities, he hath, notwithstanding, maintained his favour and reputation with his master, by a constant attention to the foibles of his particular favourites and intimates ; so that by a regular attachment to their uncertain tempers, whims, and humours, this most uncertain of all ants hath obtained and preserved for himself what ought to be properly the reward alone of unwearied application, steadiness, and resolution.

“ The next remarkables I shall direct your eyes to, are the two brother ants : see, they sit yonder together. I have in part unfolded their characters, whilst they were struggling through the hillock, or diverting themselves with some of the
little

little dirty concerns of it. I shall not now add much more, only that their names are *Aeichenor* and *Troglodytes*, and that they are esteemed rising emmets in the colony, as being possessors of those particular talents and qualifications which are esteemed in these days the surest guides in the pursuits of ambition, guile, fawning, flattery, and dissimulation."

Here the Sylph made a stop, as it were to recollect himself, and point out some more of the principal members of this grand assembly; when his design was prevented by the rising of *Meridarpax*, which first occasioned a hollow confused murmur, and then gradually subsided into a still silence, like that of the calm unruffled night; when the chief, addressing himself in the usual forms to the master of the ceremonies to the assembly, delivered his sentiments in the following terms:

THE

SPEECH of MERIDARPAX.

“IT is with the utmost concern, grief, and astonishment, Sir, that I find myself obliged, out of my unfeigned regard for the honour of my sovereign, and the dignity of his prerogative, to deliver my sentiments before this august assembly, upon such a subject as is now before us upon this ill-fated day. Ye gods ! the guardians of the emmet constitution ! shall a vile race of vagabonds, the off-scourings of the colony, wretches whom the humanity of our laws alone have exempted from a most shameful and ignominious death ; shall such as these dare to fly in the face of their allegiance to the best of sovereigns, and their duty and obedience to the prerogatives of his dignity, to which they owe their safety and protection ? Shall they dare to set at defiance the legislative

gislative power of their mother-country, and trample under foot, with impunity, her most sacred laws and sanctions? Wretches without principle, religion, or truth! shall they be suffered to counter-act the superior wisdom of their sovereign's councils? and whilst with unwearied application we are contriving the wisest and most salutary measures for our master's glory, the welfare of the state, and the support of a legal and a righteous administration, shall they with unprecedented impudence affront his officers, and insult the majesty of government by the most daring and flagitious acts of disobedience? And shall the red emmets yield their assent to such unheard-of insolence of rebellion? Shall they suffer themselves to be trampled upon by an upstart mungrel race? Shall the foundations of their glorious constitution be sapped and undermined by such traitorous and insidious practices? But why do I thus repeat the dreadful tale?

why

why vainly lament for a cause that is ruined? 'Tis all undone. The violence and insolence, Sir, which we have so meanly and tamely submitted to, are the most astonishing tokens of our desponding condition. How shall the ruins of the constitution be repaired? how shall the best of us, after what has past, be able to secure a moment the obedience of such insolent and perfidious subjects? Have we not spent the very blood and vitals of the emmet constitution, to protect them in ease and independence from all their enemies? Have we not expended an almost inexhaustible heap of shining sand, not for our own, but their emolument and safety? And these, Sir, are the returns we meet with. Our riches, our blood, the lives of our bravest and our choicest emmets, have all been sacrificed to encourage their insolence, haughtiness, and disobedience. Nay, to such a height are these things grown, as appears from
their

their late black and horrid transactions, through the conduct or connivance of infidious traitors at home, and the more avowed ones abroad, that the emmet constitution shall be no more the dread and terror of their neighbour ants, or the glory and delight of those who experience the blessed fruits of its mild, beneficent, and uncorrupted administration. — If ever there was a time, Sir, which called for the patriotic spirit of the colony to vindicate the sovereign's honour and the state's prerogative, now or never is the season to crush the Hydra monster of faction and rebellion, and by the most spirited and salutary measures convince the faithful subjects of his majesty, with what zeal and firmness we can unite to support his power and prerogative against all the opposition of the most factious traitors, and secret enemies of their happy constitution and country.

“ The

“ The only method, Sir, we have remaining to crush faction abroad, and to restore a legal administration at home, is to assert with spirit the power inherent in us, as the representatives of the whole colony, and every part and particle thereof; and to convince our most gracious sovereign, and all his subjects, that disobedience and faction are our mortal aversion, and that we will take such measures as shall be found most effectual to protect and preserve his majesty's realms from all the machinations both of secret and avowed enemies.

“ I move, therefore, that leave, Sir, be granted by this honourable assembly, to bring in a decree for the support of his majesty in the full possession and enjoyment of his power and prerogative, especially in the western parts of his dominions; to ascertain and assert the privileges and authority of the right noble his
majesty's

majesty's secret junto of these realms; which have been so egregiously violated and abused ; to appoint such a proportionable share of the expences of the government as shall appear to the wisdom of this assembly fitting and proper to be laid upon such disobedient subjects, towards the discharge of those immense debts which have been contracted by the administration here, for what ? only for the encouragement and support of their haughtiness and disobedience : that it be enacted by the authority of this assembly, that such proportionable share of such expences be levied by martial law ; being the only method left at present in his majesty's power to assert his sovereignty, and maintain his prerogative : and that it shall be deemed and declared high treason, for any of his majesty's subjects at the west end of the colony, upon any pretext, to contradict or oppose the execution of any of those orders which his majesty or his council

council shall enforce by martial law, pursuant to the powers invested in them by this decree."

Having thus spoke Meridarpax sat down, when immediately rose up a noble chief, by name Troxartes, who addressed himself to the master of the ceremonies in the following terms :

THE ,

SPEECH of TROXARTES.

"THE learned and worthy emmet who hath just now been addressing himself to you upon a subject of the greatest importance to the state that ever called forth the attention of this assembly, I flatter myself hath, in a great measure, by the force of his arguments, rendered it needless for me to take up much of the time or attention of this honourable assembly,

sembly,

sembly, to convince all its members who have any regard either for their prince's glory, or the welfare and prosperity of the state, of the expediency of carrying this decree into execution in all its parts; but as the ingenious gentleman hath chiefly confined his arguments to the nature of the prerogative, which hath been most audaciously violated; and the insolence of the subject, which hath been most audaciously defended and vindicated; I shall, Sir, ask pardon for presuming a little farther upon your patience, to lay before you the expediency of this bill, and its conduciveness, not only to the general interests and welfare of the colony, but also the particular interest and advantage of this eastern end of it, to which we more immediately belong.

“ The first basis, Sir, and foundation of all good government and well-regulated society, especially respecting our connections

nections and communications with our neighbouring emmets, is the support and maintenance of good faith in all the public transactions of the state, and in all our contracts and dealings with our neighbouring ant hillocks round about us.

“ It is the source of confidence and trust, and opens the only generous path for promoting the peace and prosperity of the emmet world by treaties and negotiations ; for where good faith and honour are the preliminary articles, the undoubted consequences must ever be, with neighbours of such known faith and tried integrity as both the brown and white emmets have been experienced to be, a firm confidence in the sincerity and purity of our intentions and designs, which will doubtless disarm them wholly of their resentment and rage at their repeated defeats and disappointments.

“ True

“ True generosity of soul, Sir, is the distinguishing characteristic of every red emmet. It hath marked their character in all ages of the state. What can be more glorious than to exercise this spirit to a conquered enemy ? We have driven them from every place where-ever we have thought proper to attack them, until there is none left for us to force and drive them from worth our attention or consideration; without we were disposed to annihilate their empire, and cause them to cease from being a nation.

“ A step, Sir, however much in our power, the most impolitic, I dare presume to say, we could possibly take; as it would be to deprive us of that spur to our valour, which our neighbours, whilst they continue formidable, will furnish us with; and as it would give an opening to that luxury and licentiousness, already introduced amongst us by our successes, to

overwhelm in the end our happy land, and destroy and demolish all our inward prosperity and peace.

“ Mercy, Sir, to a conquered enemy in our power, is one of the noblest precepts of our established religion. It will convince the world that we have not conquered through the lust of empire, or the thirst of gain; and that we had only our own security and safety in our view, when the bravery of our troops caused our flags to fly triumphant upon the loftiest and proudest towers of our enemies. It will convince them, I repeat it, that when that end was answered, and our moderation proportioned to our successes, it would be no difficulty to prevail upon us to grant our humbled enemies not only equitable, but generous terms of pacification.

“ It will bind our foes in good faith to us; it will most certainly and infallibly
shame

Shame them both from all ungenerous, artful, and over-reaching conduct ; inso-much that a peace established upon such noble principles, and built upon so firm a foundation, must stand unbroken, I do not say for ever, but as long as the memory of such a glorious transaction shall remain impressed upon an emmet's mind and memory.

“ For this salutary purpose, Sir, we ought to give the strongest proofs we possibly can, not only of our magnanimity, but of our integrity, good faith, and generosity ; to restrain the clandestine correspondence of our fellow-subjects with any of their subordinate colonies ; to employ our utmost endeavours not to suffer the western emmets under our dominion, artfully and gradually to swallow up our neighbours wealth ; as such practices must of necessity sow the seeds of distrust amongst them too soon, alas ! to produce

a most plentiful crop of bloodshed and desolation, so carefully to be avoided by every thoughtful and considerate red emmet, whose soul is properly affected with the natural wants and miseries of the emmet world.

“ Our western colonies, Sir, have become exceeding powerful by our connivance ; by our assistance they are become exceeding headstrong. If we love our country, and our native hillock, it is our duty to put a curb into their mouths, to restrain them within due compass, lest they should exert the power we have thrown into their hands in acts of violence and rapine, and by their secret communications with our neighbours subjects, break in pieces that strong chain of concord, which hath been forged with so much labour and skill to unite and link the rival nations together, by the wisdom and steadiness of the then administration ;
lest

lest their impetuosity should again involve us in another scene of confusion and expence, like that which had so very lately, for their security, almost overwhelmed the mother-colony in an inevitable bankruptcy. But why say I almost? It had surely done it, had it not been prevented by some humane and blessed spirits, who determined it in their own minds to be the noblest measure that could be pursued, to save as well a conquered as a conquering nation from immediate and unavoidable ruin; by such a glorious conduct securing to themselves the unanimous affections and gratitude of both.

“ It is a measure, Sir, the more necessary to be pursued, as it will best promote and advance the interest and welfare of the mother-colony, by restraining the power of this mungrel race, and confining their trade within just and moderate bounds, and by effectually guard-

ing against their insolence, from which we have already felt and suffered so much : for by this means we shall check and restrain their independent views, keep them under a firm subjection to our ministers at home, oblige them to be content with our superfluities and our rubbish only, and compel them to convey their own, as they ought like dutiful and obedient children to do, to the sole use and advantage of their most indulgent parent ; that she may be enabled, as her undoubted right, to engross all foreign traffic to herself, and derive to the east end of the colony all the emoluments and advantages thereof, as some small but inadequate compensation for the immense heaps of shining sand which she hath expended for their protection and preservation.

“ It is our duty, Sir, as the guardians of the emmet constitution, and the equal protectors of its laws and privileges, to

oblige the subject every where to pay his quota for the sovereign's glory, and the protection and welfare of the state. It is a maxim, Sir, in every well-governed community, that all the protected should contribute proportionably the means necessary for their preservation ; and particularly, that all who require a more expensive protection, should contribute the more largely to it.

“ For all these important reasons, Sir, as I am persuaded the motion now made before this honourable assembly, is the wisest, the noblest, and most equitable measure we can pursue, and most effectual for the purpose of protecting and preserving the grandeur, majesty, and safety of the state ; I cannot dispense with myself from giving my warmest suffrage in support of it in its whole extent, as the most prudent step that can be taken in the present exigence, for the relief of the

miserics of the mother-colony, and the effectual curbing and restraining. the haughtiness and insolence of all its undutiful and unnatural children. I therefore move, that a decree be immediately brought into this honourable assembly, for this great and salutary purpose ; and that it be prepared by the learned gentleman who spoke before me.”

Having thus spoke Troxartes sat down ; and after a short silence Hypsiboas rose up, and addressed himself to the honourable assembly on the same side of the subject, in the following warm and expressive terms :

T H E

SPEECH of HYPYSIBOAS.

“ I CANNOT avoid manifesting the utmost surprize and astonishment, Sir, at the calm and cool method of argumentation which hath been adopted by the gentleman

gentleman who spoke last, upon a subject of such high and manifest importance as that we have at present under our deliberations.

“ I know his abilities, and acknowledge the wisdom, integrity, and uprightness of his views ; and were the vile people now the subject of our consideration, proper objects either of our mercy or our humanity, I should most heartily subscribe my assent to the lenient methods of so masterly an hand, to reduce a rebellious and a besotted people to their duty and allegiance to the best and most gracious of sovereigns.

“ But is this a time for timid councils ? is this a time for lenient measures ? when the insolence of a mob hath dared to set majesty and the laws at defiance ; hath presumed to trample under foot the most sacred sanctions ; and to sacrifice the most
important

important transactions and papers of the state to the flames, with every aggravated circumstance of ignominy and insult that could be invented or contrived by the most audacious impudence? Shall we look tamely on, and let it pass? Shall we, because our laws please not their nice judging palates, submit the important deliberations of this august assembly to be procrastinated and postponed until these insolent, obstinate youngsters shall please to signify what sugar-plum, or what sweet thing, will best restore their tempers, and bless their mother-country with their returning smiles and good humour? Surely the majesty of the red emmets is not come to this! The glory of the sovereign is not humbled to this miserable plight, that he shall be obliged to ask his children pardon for contradicting their tempers, and opposing their pleasures!

“ After

“ After all the glorious achievements performed under the auspices of his government, and that of his glorious ancestors, is it come to this ? Surely it cannot be, that this so great and so gracious a sovereign must creep and crawl, and beg the people whom his wisdom, and his subjects valour, had preserved from ruin and destruction, would take him again into their favour ; would forgive the errors of his servants, and pardon their mistaken conduct ! Forbid it, Heaven, the protector of all wise and just princes ! No ! Let the righteous vengeance of the nation they have thus insulted, be let loose upon them : let our carriages be repaired and fitted out to transport immediately a sufficient quantity of our brave troops, to enforce the orders of our sovereign, and to reduce the rebellious wretches who have dared to defy us to a proper sense of their duty and their allegiance.

“ Let

“ Let them feel the calamities we have so long screened them from, and from which, at last, we have relieved them; and when they have been scourged and chastised to a proper sense of their disobedience and dependence, it may then, perhaps, be time enough to descend to softer measures, and submit, for their benefit, to the gentle plan of government chalked out by those more able speakers who have before me delivered their sentiments to this august assembly.

“ I therefore move, Sir, that, previous to the introduction amongst us of any decree of such great and manifest importance, a sufficient number of carriages be fitted out to execute and inflict condign punishment and vengeance upon this upstart race, before we admit the decree to become the subject of our deliberations; that when their spirits have been sufficiently humbled, they may submit, without murmuring, to the
intro-

introduction of that martial law, which, with the honourable gentlemen who have spoke before me on this occasion, I think the only secure means of enforcing any decree, that shall be enacted by the wisdom of this assembly, to oblige them to a proper submission and obedience to the orders of the government."

Having thus delivered himself with great vehemence and warmth upon so delicate a subject, Hypsiboas sat down out of breath; and immediately Seutlæus rose up, and seconded the first proposal in the following terms:

T H E

SPEECH of SEUTLÆUS.

" ALTHO' I cannot, Sir, avoid expressing my sincerest satisfaction and approbation of the motion now made by the

the ingenious and learned gentleman who spoke first, upon a subject of such vast importance as that which now is the subject of our deliberations, I cannot forbear, at the same time, declaring my disapprobation of that indecent, unkindly, and untimely warmth, which hath been displayed by him and the gentleman who spoke last upon this subject.

“ I acknowledge, Sir, the justness and propriety of an equal and a general taxation; and that every protected member of the emmet community, in every part of the hillock, ought to pay a proportionable share of the expences laid out in his protection and preservation.

“ I acknowledge the expediency of introducing prerogative law into the extremest parts of the colony, especially the western divisions thereof, which are the most powerful, and the most important
to

to the welfare and prosperity of the state.

“ Let them, in the name of God, enjoy their own bye-laws and privileges, but as they are, and ought to be, dependents upon the mother-colony, let there be superinduced upon them, by the authority of this august and venerable assembly, that particular species of government which ariseth from the will and pleasure of the sovereign lord, his favourites, or agents. Let them be subject and obedient to his commands, and to all the orders and decrees which all his delegates shall think right and proper, from time to time, to issue out for their observance.

“ Let the power of these delegates be properly enforced by military weight, authority, and influence ; that since they have been so bold and imprudent, and I had almost said knavish and foolish, to
oppose

48 THE ANTS.

Oppose with so much warmth and indiscretion the wise and salutary measures of taxation, which we had, in our great wisdom, contrived for their welfare, prosperity, and glory ; let them, I say, be properly tamed and humbled by the more efficacious methods of discipline, the sovereign's displeasure, and the weight of military power, that they may be made sensible what blessings and favours they have despised, by rejecting the authority we had established over them for their protection, welfare, and good.

“ But then, Sir, let this authority be prudently administered, and this delegated power be mildly exerted, that at the same time their refractory spirits are scourged for disobedience with all the mild severity of an indulgent parent, they may be gently soothed thereby to a stronger and warmer sense of their duty, and be gradually brought to a full and firm persuasion,

tion, that such gentle necessary chastisements and corrections, though for a time they may seem not joyous, but grievous, are entirely calculated with a mother's tenderness and love for their ultimate welfare, prosperity, and happiness.

“ Let them, though they have been greatly disobedient, not be frightened, but coaxed and flattered into their duty.

“ I therefore move, Sir, that a decree be drawn up, and introduced into this honourable assembly, to order, direct, and specify a certain general taxation, to be introduced in the proper forms, and with the proper preambles, into the western part of the hillock, subjecting the goods, chattels, and estates of the inhabitants thereof, under the pains and penalties of forfeiture or sequestration.

“ By this means we shall be enabled to collect, raise, and furnish a certain

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proportion of the yearly value of their income, for the necessary expences and exigencies of the community, over and besides what they may have already assessed upon themselves, for the support and administration of their own interior government and policy.

“ And as their refractory spirits and tempers have shewn the civil power greatly insufficient to enforce our laws and sanctions upon them, let a clause be inserted, that the said proposed taxation shall be levied and collected by a military force. But then, let this be exerted and exercised with all the mildness and good-humour so conspicuous in our fleets and our armies ; and let them be cajoled with politeness out of every thing we think proper to lay upon them, or to exact from them : for thus their rugged spirits will be most effectually subdued, and our sovereign be best enabled to attain his purposes by the civil and genteel behaviour of his soldiers.”

Having so said Seutlæus sat down, when immediately rose up Aeichenor, and with a most graceful and bewitching smile upon his countenance, began as follows :

THE

SPEECH of AEICHENOR.

“ I HUMBLY conceive, Sir, though so much hath been already offered to the consideration of this honourable assembly with such great propriety, weight, and energy of reasoning, by the learned and ingenious gentlemen who have addressed themselves before me upon this uncommon and extraordinary subject ; yet I ask pardon for repeating a second time, that I humbly conceive, I can lay before the worthy members of this assembly some new lights, and some hitherto unthought of or unmentioned arguments, to support, defend, and enforce the motion already proposed.

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“ The

“ The government and interior policy, Sir, of every well conditioned community in this world of emmets, depends absolutely, and entirely, upon the due regulation and subordination of all its various constituent parts.

“ The body politic, like the natural body, is in its best health, and in its highest perfection, when it enjoyeth a free and regular circulation of all its various fluids and juices ; when every particular member executes its due office, and properly exerts its particular power and capacity, so as best to promote the general welfare, health, sanity, vivacity, and spirit of the constitution. And like the same natural body, the body politic, when any of the main springs of action are out of order, becomes sick, weak, and infirm, and in a state of decay, according to the nature and the degree of injury introduced by any means into any of its constituent parts.

“ The consequence is, its motions begin to flag, and it acquires a listlessness in its temper and spirits, which, if not removed in time, by the care and prudence of the most eminent state-physicians, but suffered to corrupt and rankle under the absurd and unskilful hands of empirics, manifest a speedy tendency to corruption and mortification, and at last a total dissolution of the whole frame of the constitution.

“ This, Sir, appears to have been, in some measure, the case with the emmet constitution for a considerable season. But I hope, and flatter myself, Sir, that by a timely and prudent application of the proper remedies, and a becoming use of the healing art, the disorders of the state may be remedied, every symptom of danger that appears may be removed, and by a proper attention to its true crisis and temper, and peculiar habit, I doubt not

but we shall be able, by a suitable regimen, to restore complete health and sanity to the whole frame.

“ For if, Sir, we attend to the disorders of the state, we shall find the chief and diagnostic symptoms to be the want of the free circulation of the vital principle, main spirits, and animal juices of the constitution in its extreme parts and members.

“ For want of this, the parts affected are seized with a languor and torpitude, which impedes the circulation, and proportionably obstructs the motion of all the fluids therein ; and for lack of a due secretion and distribution of these things from the central heart, and the main springs of motion, the nobler parts gradually become clogged with the weight and sluggishness occasioned thereby.

“ Hence

“ Hence are produced tremblings, flutterings, palpitations, paroxysms, and all the whole train of ill-natured symptoms, which indicate the vehemence and manifest danger of the constitutions, health, and welfare.

“ Such appears to have been our case of late years, Sir ; I therefore humbly propose a regular course of regimen and physic to be administered, with the utmost steadiness and regularity of application.

“ The first step I would recommend, Sir, is a proper course of phlebotomy and secretion, to be executed by the standing physicians of the state, to correct and dissipate the vitiated humours, already intermixed with the vital and central parts, and to prepare the constitution for a becoming revulsion of the animal spirits.

“ I would then recommend a course of purging phyfic, to carry off the remaining parts of the distempered humours, occasionally using caustics, blistering, or sticking plaisters, according to the nature of the symptoms, the degrees of numbness and torpitude, and the various malignity which hath manifested itself in any of the extreme parts : and I dare presume to say, the most salutary consequences will arise from the wise and prudent use of a regimen so plain and obvious to answer the purposes of removing the disorders and distempers of the state.

“ I move for these strong and cogent reasons, that a decree be ordered to be drawn up, and introduced into this honourable assembly, directing the speedy and immediate introduction of the regimen into the colony, and, particularly, that a large and copious phlebotomy be administered in any of the extreme parts,
wherever

wherever it shall be found necessary, by the proper officers, for fear the blood should coagulate into a putrid state, and bring a dangerous fever upon the constitution, which being long neglected, may be out of the reach of all political physic whatsoever, to calm its fury, and restrain its rage."

Having thus concluded Aeichenor sat down, when immediately Troglodytes rose up to second and support his brother's motion in the following terms :

T H E
SPEECH of TROGLODYTES.

" THE gentleman who spoke last, Sir, hath most learnedly and ingeniously displayed and pointed out those strong symptoms, which every where appear, of the great and dangerous diseases and distempers

tempers of the state, and seems to have chalked out a very wise and salutary method of treating them with the best and the greatest success imaginable. But I cannot avoid imagining, that some succedaneums may be very prudently added to his system, to make the course more perfect, and the process more complete.

“ He hath properly enough prescribed and recommended phlebotomy, and evacuations of various sorts, to remove, and carry off, the peccant and redundant humours, which have, of late, so greatly endangered the health and constitution of the body politic.

“ He hath also, with no less propriety, proposed the introducing a strong revolution through all the parts of the constitution. But, at the same time, permit me to observe, that he does not seem to have pointed out the true method of procedure

cedure in the case, with that exactness and perspicuity which ought to be made use of in prescribing for the diseases and distempers of a decaying constitution, and of the body-politic of the red emmets. For this reason, I take the liberty of offering my poor opinion, that several particular processes may be added, as very useful prescriptions, to remedy and repair the defects already pointed out, which my learned brother hath inadvertently passed over, or not attended to.

“ There are two methods, Sir, of ancient and venerable practice in the world of emmets, which appear, from the experience of all ages, to have been of sovereign efficacy to promote the proper circulation and secretion of the animal juices and spirits, to enable them to throw off and expel any accidental load of distemper that may have been contracted by any bad or criminal habits.

“ These

“ These powerful and efficacious medicines are extremely well known in the learned world, and are principally of two sorts, friction and flagellation.

“ They are both alike to be used to the best advantage by an external application ; the apparatus for that purpose is of exceeding easy procurement and acquisition, and the cost exceeding trifling ; which is no small circumstance in favour of the prescription, as the distressed situation of our granaries renders even the minutest saving of consequence to the public benefit and welfare.

“ All that is necessary for the purposes of the first sort, is a suitable apparatus of brushes of various forms, sizes, and texture ; and of different sizes respecting the length and strength of the bristles, which are to be chosen and made use of according
to

to the nature of the disorder in any extreme part, and the duration and degree of torpitude and insensibility in the part affected.

“ In the administration of this remedy let the following rules be observed with care, and they will frequently effect a cure without any other application at all : Let the affected part be first carefully handled and examined ; let the performer, after gently pressing it, begin first with gently pinching and squeezing it, to discover where the part is most strongly affected, and to find out the particular degree of sensibility in the patient.

“ After this, having carefully examined all these previous symptoms, let the operator proceed to the process, by rubbing with a brush proper for the part, first in a gentle manner, gradually encreasing the friction of the affected member to such a degree as to restore a due circulation of the juices by
encreas-

increasing the heat and fire of the part, so that the restoration of its intestine motion may superinduce a proper and becoming degree of sensibility ; and so proceed through every distempered part and member of the political body, till the health and pristine vigour of the whole be sufficiently repaired and re-established. But should the distemper in any part or member of the constitution be risen to such a head, and the symptoms appear so deep rooted and inveterate as not to yield to this first method of treatment, it will then be found a very prudent step, and the best you can possibly make use of, Sir, to proceed to the second kind of prescription I have just mentioned, and begin a proper and due course of flagellation in the following methods.

“ Take a large rod, or bundle of twigs fast bound up together ; the best sort, Sir, is extracted from the birch-tree, as being the longest, the most flexible and tough,
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and the best armed with knots at the extremities, so efficacious to promote perspiration, and recover and encrease sensâtion to the diseased part. As to the method of application, it is too well known to every emmet even of the meanest skill in grammatical learning, to need any particular description. All I shall add in recommending a remedy so convenient and efficacious in removing the disorders of the body, is this, that the application both in its duration and its strength be properly proportioned to the malignity of the distemper in every part of the body politic ; that as flagellation, by the experience of all ages, appears to have been the most approved method of practice to tame and subdue the spirits, and rule effectually the tempers of all slave ants ; so by a proper application of the same discipline to the disorders of those who pretend to assert their freedom under the emmet constitution, they may be, to their cost, convinced of their folly and weakness, and brought by scourging to a
more

more becoming method both of thought and action.

“ For all these important reasons I have laid before you, Sir, I humbly propose to this honourable assembly, since the political disorders of the colony are risen to such a dangerous and malignant height, that a decree be immediately drawn up and introduced amongst us, directing the proper state-physicians to prepare a suitable apparatus of their skill, and proceed to their immediate attendance upon the distempered and corrupted parts ; and that they be fully authorized, by the especial order of this assembly, to proceed without loss of time both to the prescription and practice of every means that may be in the least useful to remove and root out every lurking distemper and ill habit. And I humbly move, that orders be immediately issued, that their several prescriptions and applications may be made with due regularity, and a becoming decency and order :
that

that they begin first of all with gently nipping and pinching any part that appears affected, in the most judicious and scientific manner : that they then proceed to the use of friction, and the proper application of brushes : that they be directed to continue or increase the process both in duration and violence, according to the nature of the symptoms that present themselves during the course of operation. That if the distemper should be so deep rooted as not to yield to this milder and gentler method of treatment, they be ordered to proceed to a strong and regular course of flagellation, administering the process with a becoming attention to the obstinacy of the distemper, the strength and spirit of the patient, and the crisis of its constitution. That if this treatment should not yet be efficacious enough to overcome the violence of the disorder, it be recommended to them to proceed to the application of all the various most approved methods

thods of revulsion, so justly esteemed as a master-stroke in the discoveries of modern physic ; and, by a due course of phlebotomy, the use of caustics, paregorics, and emetics, gradually restore that free and vigorous circulation which is the constant consequence of a spare and abstemious habit of body, and in consequence thereof excite an agreeable titillation through the whole frame, to indicate a thorough sensibility in all the parts of the constitution.

“ After this, let them be ordered to proceed in the common methods of practice to carry off all remaining peccant humours that may lie concealed therein, till the whole is restored to its primitive strength and vigour.

“ Thus, Sir, shall we most effectually preserve, provide for, restore, and maintain the safety and welfare of the emmet constitution.”

Having

Having concluded his address in this manner, Troglodytes sat down ; after which there ensued a short silence, which, to the surprize of every emmet, was interrupted by the rising of Lichopinax, who addressed himself to the master of the ceremonies in the following remarkable manner :

THE
SPEECH of LICHOPINAX.

“ I AM not at all surprised, Sir, when I consider the characters, genius, and temper of my brother emmets, to have heard them so wittily, ingeniously, and artfully display their talents in the defence of our glorious constitution, and its projected deliverance from all those dreadful evils which hang over it, and threaten its entire destruction and dissolution ; since by their very conduct upon this important occasion, they

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plainly

plainly manifest themselves to have been chiefly actuated in all they have said by their own self interest, the most powerful of all motives in a modern emmet's breast ; or, to say no worse, by a false and mistaken pride, and an unwarrantable ambition, in the various methods of discipline they have recommended as proper to dispel (to speak in their own quaint language) the peccant humours of the state, and dissipate all its gathering tumours and excrescences.

“ But surely, Sir, our happy constitution is not in such mighty and imminent danger as these state-empirics have so elaborately described, and embellished with such a profusion of figurative eloquence, and the various flowers of the rhetorical art. It cannot be, Sir, that a constitution which hath for ages been improving, polishing, and refining, by all the means and methods that could be dictated and pointed out by
the

the most distinguished genius and understanding of the emmet race, which hath been so wisely framed and put together, and so strongly and securely jointed, should fall to pieces, and be suddenly brought to ruin and decay by one sudden and convulsive accident : An accident I can take upon me to assert, which might very easily have been foreseen and prevented long ago, if those emmets, to whose sagacity we must alone impute it that it happened at all, had given themselves any sober and serious thoughts upon a matter of such importance to the state.

“ But such is the frailty of some short-sighted understandings, that not a few amongst us are led by the false reasonings, or the more artful influence of their superiors, to abet and support, as the sole means of maintaining the welfare and prosperity of country, and exalt its glory, measures

which are not only repugnant to the rules of natural justice, but contrary, nay diametrically opposite to the safety and even the existence of the constitution itself; measures the most absurd and monstrous that could ever enter the heads of any emmets who have the least shadow of a pretence to either civil or political knowledge, and which, in the end, will be productive of nothing else but the entire ruin and subversion of the state. But why do I expatiate upon a subject already so well understood amongst us, and so deeply felt in this honourable assembly, by the fatal consequences of such a destructive and ruinous measure! The majesty of government hath been insulted; the authority of this honourable assembly hath been impudently called in question; the peace of the colony hath been broken and disturbed in every part. Our carriages have been stopped in their journies; our manufactures and
merchan-

merchandize have been kept spoiling and rotting in our granaries ; and for want of that circulation of the exmet labours which is so necessary to the health, prosperity, and glory of the colony, the industrious ants in all the most valuable and flourishing parts of the hillock have been reduced to poverty, and forced to starve for want of employment. A general stagnation of commerce hath prevailed in every part of the colony ; anarchy and confusion, led on by poverty, distress, and want, have been seen taking large strides amongst us, to destroy, mow down, or root out that regular subordination of ranks and degrees in the colony, which is its best support, and its greatest ornament and glory.

“ To restore tranquility and peace, Sir, and re-establish quiet and good order through the hillock, quite different methods of treatment must be pursued ; methods directly contrary to the poor, mean,

paltry prescriptions of those curious doctors, who have been pleased so artfully and floridly to display their political talents and capacities for healing up or skinning over the sore and malignant distempers of the state, to remove and drive away all its peccant humours and disorders.

“ Such state-quackery, what has it ever done, Sir, what can it ever do but cicatrize for a season the affected parts, and skin over the wounds of the constitution in such a manner as to exhibit through its whole frame little else but scars and blotches, which, upon every fresh attempt either to remove or smother, shew under their surface a fresh sore, and again require the various arts and remedies of healing.

“ If the constitution, Sir, must be mended, and surely our present condition indicates great want of cure, let us strike with all our skill and all our power at the root
of

of our disorders, and put in practice every means we have in our possession to rectify every distemper, and make our constitution once more the envy and the glory of the whole emmet race : Not by external applications to particular parts, not by partial secretions, revulsions, and evacuations, but by a proper use of every internal remedy that can be conceived in the least degree suitable to restore its health, and encrease and confirm its original strength and vigour.

“ Let us not content ourselves with palliatives, but boldly lay open all those diseases which by unskilful, artful, or self-interested treatment have been suffered almost radically to intermix themselves with the original frame, and to unite so strongly therewith as to be of late esteemed even necessary members of the body-politic itself, and quite essential to the free and proper circulation of its juices.

“ If

“ If ever there was a time, Sir, when every part of this happy constitution was maintained in its full vigour and strength, let us direct our thoughts and attention to that business and period of time, and examine with all our faculties the differences that manifest themselves in our present situation, that we may be thereby instructed to correct every grievance that has crept in upon us through negligence, connivance, or art, and remove every obstruction that at this time causeth disorder amongst us.

“ In those happy times when the blessed constitution of the red emnets was well known and understood ; when its laws and privileges were properly revered, honoured, and observed ; the peace, prosperity, and safety of the people was its first, its greatest, and its noblest law, to which all ranks and degrees of emnets paid a most chearful as well as absolute obedience. A second noble principle
which

which adorned the emmet constitution was a proper and regular subordination of ranks, from the sovereign to the labouring emmet, who maintained his family, and supplied his granary with the work of his own hands.

“ The great and powerful ants continually extended their protection to all beneath them within the sphere of their authority and influence, that they might severally enjoy their pittance with safety, ease, and comfort ; whilst the latter, with grateful sentiments, acknowledged the protection, and chearfully contributed their utmost to ennoble their protectors, to honour their virtues, and support their dignity ; so that from the sovereign himself to the meanest lord or patron of the most retired recesses of the colony, their mild paternal government commanded reverence, respect, and love, from all beneath them ; and all ranks being fully persuaded of the advantages

vantages they derived from such humane and equal laws, were united in one common bond of love, humanity, and mutual friendship, from a firm persuasion, that the general welfare coincided with the private good and secret happiness of every individual, and that no constitution can be at all perfect or good where the meanest subject is liable to oppression, or the greater and more powerful ones are let loose to trample under foot and violate its laws and sanctions with impunity.

“ At that time it was the practice for the sovereign only to acquaint his people with his wants, as they arose from season to season, for the protection and support of the state ; and being persuaded that it was the same thing to ask as to receive from his truly grateful and affectionate subjects whatever appeared needful for the support and glory of the state, he never, when the public wants required their assistance, indulged

dulged his apprehensions of imaginary distresses so far as to cajole his people in order to gratify a rapacious minister or his own more rapacious minions, and persuade them to give more than his real wants required ; nor did he ever wish to mortgage, at a great and inconvenient expence, whatever they thought proper to assign out of their granaries and stores, the more readily to supply his present imaginary necessities, without ever indulging a thought of ever again discharging the incumbrance, or entertaining the least apprehension that the public faith could be strained so far, or the thread of credit drawn out so fine as suddenly to snap in twain, so as to sink this happy constitution in compleat ruin and destruction, never to be recovered from, except by a total and absolute annihilation of those immense incumbrances laid upon his subjects by the arts of his favourites, for the support of their own grandeur, influence, and power.

“ In

“In those happy times, the master of the hillock would not permit himself to be prevailed upon by the contrivances of any such to persuade his happy people to burthen themselves and their granaries with troublesome and unnecessary loads, to create thereby an unlimited trust, and a servile confidence in any of his delegates, to enable them thereby to rule his people with a rod of iron, establishing themselves and their power at the expence of their fellow-subjects wealth and storehouses.

“But alas ! whatever was the happy condition of the red emmets in former times, the case with them at this day is deplorably altered for the worse : The chain of dependence and subordination is totally dissipated and broken through entirely in every link and every division ; the common good, welfare, and advantage of the colony is reduced now only to a very inferior consideration ; the Summum Bonum
in

in every modern emmet's breast, the chief, the master passion which now prevails in their constitution, is to enlarge and fill their granaries : nay, so predominant is the lust of gain amongst them all, from the highest to the lowest degree of emmets, that to this insatiable passion, Sir, they will sacrifice most readily opinion, prejudice, religion, passion, nay even fame, reputation, virtue, and every thing else that was formerly laudable and praise-worthy throughout the hillock, and that without the least remorse or anguish of soul.

“ A large and well filled granary is now of infinitely more value than all those old-fashioned virtues and grapes put together, which some ages ago we read in the history of the emmet world, attracted the admiration, veneration, and esteem of all the wise and noble amongst them. Integrity, faith, honour, friendship, private affection, all are nothing, all are but vanity and vexation

tion of spirit to every red emmet who hath the least ambition to enlarge his granary, or make a figure amongst his neighbours: nay so generally, so universally hath the contagion spread, that it hath invaded every corner of this once happy hillock, and infected even the most retired parts of the colony, so as to become the chief, if not the sole spring of action to emmets of all denominations amongst us: it hath even acquired such a strange power, and assumed such a magical influence over them all, as to change the colour of their vestments, the shape and colour of their cockades; nay even the complexion both of their bodies and their minds are subject to its predominant power, secret influence, and sovereign sway.

“ It hath acquired the uncommon power of changing the very political tastes of all, to new model and new mould their religious as well as their civil sentiments,
and

and opinions ; to fix the standards of every righteous, polite, and virtuous practice ; to appoint emmets, formerly the warm patrons and protectors of the blue ribbon, as directors of the public affairs and concerns of such emmets whose glory has been in a ribbon of yellow ; to fix emmets, who spurn with scorn at the idea of a Providence presiding over the emmet world, at the head of the rational religion and the religious policies of the state.

“ So that faction being thus completely confounded, dismayed, and discomfited, by the total rout and destruction of party spirit, Corruption might have a larger opening, and a more easy and agreeable access amongst us, to acquire a proper and becoming influence in the state, as meeting neither contradiction nor opposition in her career. So that the foul fiend acquiring full possession of the

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minds and hearts of the whole colony, lawyers and petty-foggers becoming priests, and priests assuming the habits, reasoning, and chicanery of the lawyers, the knights of the white rose lifting themselves under the banners of the yellow, Anarchy might reign triumphant, and Corruption teach all her minions to entertain this mighty truth without remorse, or the least secret silent shame and confusion, *That shining sand alone can constitute the true and genuine happiness of every judicious emmet's soul*; and that it is the sole true foundation of the choicest and most valuable graces and virtues.

“ Hence all rational, wise, and industrious emmets are at last persuaded by these magic wiles and arts, that shining sand ought to be the greatest object of their wishes and desires, their inclinations and their labours, and the most suitable and convenient stuff they can be possessed

of, to polish away, or gloss over every blemish; to colour all inequalities and roughnesses, both of mind and body; to smooth and supple every emmet's joints, and communicate that influence, weight, and address, which they think so necessary to complete the happiness of every emmet soul of spirit.

“ This universal principle hath introduced amongst us all its concomitant train of attendants, avarice, bribery, venality, faithlessness, fraud, over-reaching, deceit, lying, railing, backbiting, nipping, scratching, and, in short, every other species of conduct that can possibly proceed from the heart of that emmet who has made the glittering mischief the supreme duty of his soul; and a well-stored granary the sovereign lady of his affections, the spring and source of every irregular passion, desire, and appetite.

blished to protect and preserve even the meanest subject from the encroachments of superior power and might.

“ From hence then, as from a glorious center, Sir, let us exert ourselves with becoming spirit, to spread and diffuse the shining blessings round about us ; let us embrace the noble opportunity to convince the world about us, that every distinguished virtue, every true grace adorns us, and that we prefer not the glittering glories of a well filled granary to the love of our sovereign, of our country, and our fellow-emmetts. Let us despise the futile succedaneous medicines that have been so artfully prescribed for the disorders of the colony. Let us reject all superficial remedies, as totally ineffectual for the purpose ; and shew throughout the hillock that we are animated, as one soul, with every grace and virtue that can adorn an emmet's mind. Let us begin with a radical

dical and effectual process, to root out all the seeds of distemper and disorder from amongst us, and restore that free and orderly subordination of ranks, orders, and degrees of emmets, which ought to subsist through every part of our native hillock.

“ Let us manifest that the love of our colony’s welfare is our greatest and our supreme delight, to advance and promote which, our wishes, our labours, and our reasonings, shall ever be devoted and directed ; and that every individual of us, without exception, have such an honest and prevailing love and affection for our native soil, as to unite with one mind and voice to remove and banish all the grievances that afflict us.

“ For a purpose so amiable and excellent as this, let us begin at the foundation of all the mischief, and by our authority, influence, and example, teach all around

us to root out that selfish disposition which hath so greatly tainted the minds and the practice of all ranks and all denominations in the colony. Let us begin the example ourselves, by laying by our bawbles, our gewgaws, and our rattles. Let us sell up our hobby-horses, and begin each of us to treasure up some few grains of corn, for the relief of our public necessities and wants.

“ Let us, particularly, direct our first care, above all other things, to demolish that gaudy academy which hath so long attracted and ensnared such numbers of our brethren by its false charms and specious allurements; but, in reality, hath been the chief, I could almost presume to say the only, source of our misfortunes, and the sole spring of all our distresses. Let us dismiss from the public service, with the shame and disgrace they so richly deserve, those celebrated masters
of

of discipline who have been so long maintained there at an immense expence, to corrupt the spirits and vitiate the souls of our youth, to sap the vital principles of our happy constitution, and, in the end, to overturn and utterly destroy it.

“ Let us, Sir, endeavour by our example, and steady practice, to teach all around us to banish from their granaries all marks of luxury, extravagance, and wantonness. Let us teach the labouring emmets all around to excel in justice, diligence, industry, and frugality ; and let us make it a chosen point with us all to encourage them in the acquisition and exercise of these virtues, by effectually securing to them a becoming proportion of the fruits of their labours. Let us with the utmost detestation and abhorrence, avoid the horrid practice of stripping our dependents and our vassals, and the labouring emmets, of every sort of all their
superfluities,

superfluities, and plundering their granaries from time to time, for the only purpose of encreasing our hoards, or gratifying our extravagant, luxurious, and licentious humours, and supporting and maintaining the most egregious follies.

“ By our own œconomy and wisdom, let us introduce plenty into every part of our native hillock, and teach our dependents with becoming pleasure to contribute their several proportions to the same happy purpose.

“ Let us then proceed to extend the same virtues to the management of the public granary and treasure, retrenching with the utmost care all superfluous luxury and extravagance there; suppressing all secret frauds, deceits, and impositions, both in the payments and receipts thereof; and honestly applying every thing allowed by the great council of the colony to the
true

true purposes for which it was designed, and no other, without the least treachery or guile.

“ But above all other things, permit me, Sir, to recommend it as the most salutary measure that can be pursued for the true happiness and glory of our native hillock, that we immediately take down and destroy the windmill, as the most pernicious contrivance that ever was invented to encrease and enlarge the public expences, and aggravate the burthens and distresses of the state.

“ Let it be demolished to atoms immediately ; let it be committed to the flames, and the ashes of it dispersed and scattered abroad at the pleasure of the winds to every quarter of the emmet world ; for whenever this is effectually done, I dare presume to prophesy, that our constitution shall then recover her ancient vigour. We shall
then

then have no occasion to lay constantly heavy burthens upon the industrious emmets, who are both the support and bulwark of our country's safety, and our glory. We shall then never find ourselves under the disagreeable necessity of pursuing arbitrary, artful, or unconstitutional measures; to supply the pretended wants and necessities of the colony : and by thus retrenching and lopping off all the political luxuriences that have drawn out the vital sap of the colony for the support of themselves, we shall be enabled to make six millions of wheat and barley grains sufficient to answer the purposes to which eighteen millions have been proposed to be employed, under the guidance of an artful, selfish, or corrupted administration.

“ Thus will the public wants and necessities be exceedingly lessened ; the real calls and occasions of the colony be readily supplied ; the safety, peace, and prosperity of
of

of every part wisely provided for, maintained, and preserved ; and all be united in one steady universal contribution from their own several industry to the public wealth, health, and aggrandizement; and all enjoy as their just reward, a proportionable share of the fruit of their labours, for the encrease of their own private comfort, prosperity, and happiness, and the great improvement of their domestic ease and peace. And by thus taking away all unnecessary incumbrances, we shall be put into the best methods we can fall into, to remove those various heavy clogs which lie like a dead weight upon our trade and commerce, chiefly arising from unreasonable and exorbitant taxes and impositions ; so that every track of communication being laid open, plain, and free, our intercourses may be enlarged, and our commerce improved to such a degree as to encrease the natural revenues of the state in such a large and distinguished manner, as to enable them, without

out other assistance, fully to support the ease and stability of government, the true grandeur and glory of the sovereign, and produce at last the complete recovery and health of the state. Let us then trifle thus shamefully no longer, but proceed to demolish without the least remorse or regret these wretched superstructures, and root out those dreadful excrescences, which have so vilely and basely deformed, perverted, and corrupted the true and wise maxims and laws of the colony.

“ Let industry be rewarded, oeconomy of the right sort be encouraged ; let that boasted academy be reduced to ashes ; let the shameful windmill, the cause of all our sorrows, be destroyed and given to the winds ; let all private selfishness be banished from our colonies and hearts ; for then I pronounce we shall again, Sir, see happy times ; and each emmet, even of the meanest degree, possess his little hoard and granary in joy, security, and peace.”

Warmed

Warmed with these patriotic sentiments, the chief seemed desirous to expatiate at large upon the means of rectifying and removing the peccant humours of the state. But the novelty of his propositions, and the unheard of audacity of his views, suddenly excited such a confused noise and tumult amongst the members of this august assembly, and especially the friends and partizans of those doughty chiefs who had so warmly delivered their sentiments on the other side the question, and had been so severely treated by Lichopinax, that his voice was swallowed up in the dire confusion, and he found himself obliged to sit down, however abruptly and against his will, in silence.

The sovereign being immediately informed of the violent tumults, disorders, and disturbances that distracted the councils of the assembly, immediately dispatched his orders by the proper officers, to dissolve

solve the assembly, and command them all to retire in silence and quiet to their respective homes and granaries, till he, in his royal wisdom, should think proper to issue out a fresh summons, commanding their attendance at the grand council of the colony.

Whilst the assembly were separating to their respective homes, in obedience to this command, the Sylph addressed Eugenio with a smooth and still voice and accent in the following terms :

“ Thou seest, mortal, the varied confusions and disorders which, by the indulgence of inordinate and irregular passions, are introduced into the emmet world, to disturb its tranquility, perplex its policies, and destroy its peace. Thou canst not have avoided observing, in the course of those debates which I have introduced thee into the hearing of, how artfully the great and mighty emmets of the hillock can shelter

ter their ambitious, haughty, selfish, and self-interested designs under the specious coverings of the royal authority, the sovereign's glory, and the welfare of the emmet world and state.

“ How specious do their reasonings seem to be ! But to an impartial mind, and a sound understanding, how futile must all their arguments appear ! as the only point they aim to carry is to accumulate fresh loads upon that burthen which has been very long too heavy for the constitution to bear, without tottering and trembling, and at last sinking under the intolerable weight.

“ What a melancholy thing must it appear to thine own heart, Eugenio (which I know to be a good one, and which, if thou wilt persevere to observe my directions, I will ever maintain and improve in goodness) to reflect that the best and most bene-

ficient of all the sovereigns of the emmet world should be compelled to repose a confidence in the most artful, interested, and designing people of his vassals : that the necessities of the state should oblige him to consult or trust such sort of emmets chiefly whose main view ever is to enlarge their granaries out of the public spoils, and by every means of private oppression, violence, and rigour in their power, to enslave all ranks and degrees of their fellow-subjects, and plunder them of those various privileges and comforts which it is his constant wish and glory to communicate and ensure, even to the meanest emmet in the hillock.

“ How must his good, gracious, and benevolent soul be distracted, whenever he is told, that by the secret machinations of the false-hearted people about him, he is unwarily made the innocent means of distress and misery to any of his subjects ; and that his sacred name hath at times been prostituted

tuted to support tyranny, ambition, avarice, cruelty, nay, and even the treachery and falshood of his own immediate servants !

“ Oh, Eugenio, my heart yearns within me for his happiness and his true glory as the father of his country !

“ May the Supreme Governor of the world shed his benigneſt influences upon his head, and enable him to expel at all times from the ſoot of his throne, and the radiance of his favour, all ſuch falſe-hearted emmets as ſhall ſecretly conſpire to pervert his moſt benevolent and moſt gracious purpoſes in ſuch a dreadful manner, to the ruin, deſtruction, and miſery of ſuch numbers of his ſubjects !

“ But hold, Eugenio ! a gleam of light beams in upon my ſoul, and on a ſudden I feel myſelf inſpired with the nobleſt hopes

and prospects that our united prayers and petitions to the Great Sovereign of the ant creation shall not be fruitless ; for see, Eugenio, yonder goes that secret chosen band whom neither rods, nor whips, nor scourges can intimidate ; whom no bribes can bias to relinquish the real interests, or forget the real welfare of their native hills. Not all the secret machinations of those whom thou seest caballing in a secret corner, to overturn or elude their patriotic schemes and designs, shall have the least efficacy or effect, whilst they continue united in the glorious cause, and animated with a warm and strong affection for virtue, integrity, honour, and the love of their fellow-emmetts and their native soil.

“ Inspired with such glorious sentiments, they will continue close combined together, to re-establish the shattered constitution, to restore life to the decayed and mortified parts, and health to those which
are

are infected and diseased ; to root out and expel in time its other dangerous humours and disorders, and teach their fellow-emmetts to know and understand these great and momentous truths, That however selfishness, knavery, bribery and corruption, pride, insolence, haughtiness, ambition, cruelty, and the whole catalogue of vices may debase a people, and reduce to the brink of destruction the best system of government and society ever known in the emmet world ; yet disinterestedness, generosity, public spirit, true and unblemished honour and faith shall save a state from ruin ; and prudence, œconomy, piety, religion, and private virtue, shall again raise and restore its glory, and ensure to it a return of its original happiness and perfection.

“ Observe that tall, slender, well-looking ant, Eugenio, whom thou seest at the
H 3
head

head of their consultations ; remark the openness of his countenance, and the frankness of his air and mien ; observe the obligingness of his deportment to all beneath him. That emmet, though distinguished by the highest and noblest advantages both of honour, birth, and fortune, derives neither grace nor glory from such external, adventitious circumstances ; but by the nobleness of his own soul, and the magnanimity of his own heart, riseth superior to the most distinguished honours, and reflecteth a lustre upon that very grandeur and dignity which is esteemed to confer upon such numbers of his fellow-emmetts of a meaner cast, not only all the temporal honours and dignities they assume to themselves, but also a fancied idea of a godlike frame and existence, without which to support them, they would suddenly sink down to the most contemptible situation ~~that~~ *that* can possibly be imagined to exist in the world of emmetts.

“ Su

“ Such is the distinguished ant selected by the hand of Providence to be the guardian and saviour of his country. Behold his companions ; observe how the glorious spirit of liberty and freedom beams in their eyes, and illuminates their countenances, so vastly reverse to the gloomy aspects of those self-interested emmets whom thou mayst discover skulking in corners, and caballing together to recover their lost granaries and hoarding-places ; whose minds are animated by the worst dispositioned Gnomes that are permitted to harrass and infest the emmet world and constitution ; whilst, as thou plainly seest by that faculty which I have conferred upon thee, my brother Sylphs are, with the utmost joy and pleasure, fluttering round their chosen, their beloved charge ; animating their spirits, enlarging their ideas, directing their judgments, and assisting them continually in every mental improvement which has the least tendency to adorn their favourites,

or spread the blessings communicated to them far and wide around them,

“ Rejoice with me, Eugenio, at the delightful prospect now before thy eyes, and join with me in the best, the warmest, and most ardent wishes for the prosperity of every salutary design and scheme which they shall encourage, or resolve to put in execution, for the restoration of the public tranquillity, the glory of the sovereign, and the welfare of the state; for the lessening and diminishing the public wants and distresses, and enlarging the means they are contriving to relieve the industrious ants from those dreadful burdens, so enormously accumulated by shallow, short-sighted, rapacious, and corrupt directors and administrators.

“ May they, whilst they are gloriously employed in relieving the distresses of the state, be ever inclined to direct their benevolent

nevolent attention to the ease, the comfort, peace, and quiet of every individual deserving emmet, within the sphere of their observation !

“ May their souls abhor the favourite system, now so much in fashion amongst their adversaries, of wrapping up their vassals and dependants, like so many mummies, in swaddling-clothes ; and then by means of artful and dexterous agents, writhing and twisting them, when thus enveloped, into all shapes and forms, till they constrain them to promise to shed every drop of blood and sweat in their bodies, for the support of their master’s extravagance and insolence, without a murmur, or the most secret groan !

“ May the hearts of this chosen band be humanized by a nobler strain of modulation than these modern times can seem to boast of ! May they rejoice to see
their

their vassals flourish in plenty, prosperity, and ease ! May they take pleasure, at all times, in encouraging their industry, by securing to them the just reward of all their toils and labours ; and may the glorious system of mutual affection, connexion, and dependence, which formerly was the noblest bulwark of the emmet constitution, be again restored ! May the patron and the vassal, in every corner of this happy hillock, be both devoted from the noblest motives to the interest of liberty and their country's welfare, and steadily united in a reciprocal law and affection for the mutual support of one another ; the vassals gratefully acknowledging the patrons generous protection and munificence, by all those services that are suited to their stations, and becoming their conditions ; and the patrons by their humanity, generosity, and beneficence, protecting their dependents in the secure and peaceable enjoyment and possession
of

of their diminutive granaries and store-houses !

“ May they never suffer that blood-sucking generation of horse-leeches, which have, of late years, so strongly attached themselves to every great and powerful emmet, and now begin to be considered as even necessary not only to their comfort but their existence, as necessary as their best and most inward clothing, be no longer let loose to bite, scratch, and devour their inferiors without remorse and without mercy !

“ May they have the spirit to keep all such continually chained up, and curbed with bit and bridle, as evil, but necessary, implements, to whip and scourge the profligate and abandoned emmets only, and reduce them again by discipline to their diligence and their duty ! But may they suffer no leech to come near the honest,

4 upright,

upright, and industrious emmet, to
up his granaries, to ransack his
and his stores, to plunder away the
of his industry, and suck out, at
vital blood, to gratify his own priv
lice and rancour, hatred and sple
for some secret selfish views of hi
to oppress and crush the least ind
emmet in the hillock !

“ May a mutual intercourse of
offices between the high and the
the rich and the poor, make a
vermin an unnecessary burden
thereby cement the peace and
quility of society, that all may
in the noble practice of enlargin
granaries by honest and virtuo
thods alone ; to open, extend, :
courage every track of commu
with the different parts of the hill
the most upright, faithful, and l
able dealings ; to establish commer

its true foundation, a mutual attention to the various, real, or artificial wants of one another, without cozening, over reaching, biting, and nipping; and scorning to aggrandize their native hillocks, themselves, their granaries, or families, at the expence of public or private faith, honour, and integrity!

“ May they, according to the expressive language of the black emmets, their friends to the westward, brighten up the chain which links them together in mutual love and friendship, by every act of generosity and beneficence, and a constant intercourse of all good offices, that can endear them to one another as fellow-subjects of the same mild and gracious sovereign! that the blessings of this happy constitution may be preserved untouched, entire, and uncorrupted; and the benign spirit of true and generous freedom of soul, with all its genuine consequences,

sequences, may be delivered down in the most generous manner, and effectually secured, even to the latest posterity; that the mild sovereign who now rules the colony, may not wear a crown of thorns, through the perverseness, vice, villany, or knavery of his subjects; but by their integrity, benevolence, and public spirit, may it ever be adorned with the most precious of all jewels, jewels infinitely superior in value to the glittering emerald or the sparkling diamond, the precious jewels of peace, tranquility, and prosperity; and the possession of that greatest of all glories, that noblest of all characters, the being the mild and gracious father of a happy, quiet, and a grateful people.

“ Such, Eugenio, are, or ought to be, the ardent prayers and wishes of every red emmet, who is true to his principles, and affectionate to his country; and such, I trust,

trust, are the chosen band selected out by Providence to save and redeem a sinking nation ; notwithstanding the difficulties which will be thrown in their way by the secret machinations of traitors, and such false-hearted ants as will sacrifice every thing to their pride, their avarice, and their lusts. It is easy for me to see all their difficulties : I hope it will be no less easy for me and my brethren to obviate, and remove them all. Let me point out some of them to thee, Eugenio. Observe their private cabals, they are too plain and obvious to be concealed : they are even at the present moment gathering in corners, and rallying their routed strength to counteract and overthrow the judicious designs of their opponents, whom they opprobriously term (tho' with the greatest injustice) their supplanters in the favour of their sovereign, and the government of the colony.

“ Observe

“ Observe that knot of emmets so close knit together, in a retired corner; they are the chiefs of the cabal. Grieved for the loss of their secret hoards, which are now intended to be laid open for the benefit and emolument of the public weal, they are at this moment setting every engine at work to pull down and demolish the structure which public virtue is now raising for the protection and defence of the colony, and concerting every secret contrivance in their power to sap its foundation, and totally overturn it, to the entire ruin of it all. 105

“ I know, Eugenio, thou lovest thy own country, and most sincerely wishest its fame, welfare, and glory. I will take thee nearer, that thou mayst the more clearly see by the conduct and behaviour of such pernicious emmets as these are before thy eyes, what dreadful consequences must, even amongst thy fellow-beings,

sings, arise from sheltering such harpies in the bosom of government, whose chief happiness consists in the destruction of order, the perversion of truth, and the total confusion of all faith, principle, honour, and virtue. When such are suffered to preside and attend at your councils, and trust themselves into the most awful and solemn assemblies of your people, what can ye expect, except anarchy, disorder, tumult, treachery, both private and public, rapine, peculation, and every other vice which can infect a nation where wickedness is not only committed at, but permitted to reign in high places, and successful villany to ride triumphant thro' our streets?

“ Observe that knot of emmets yonder, how close they are knit in consultation together.—But hold, Eugenio, I will carry thee a little nearer yet, that thou mayest be made fully sensible to what a super-
 VOL. II. I lative

lative degree the malice, insolence, and pride of an emmet's mind is capable of being carried, when hurried on by the heats of passion, and the wild, irregular, and unmeasurable sallies of ambition and revenge.

“ See, they are even now flattering themselves, that notwithstanding the seeming appearances against them, the system they have so artfully reared, and so long supported, and which hath been so ably and so wisely contrived to enslave the whole colony ; (not to the sovereign, Eugenio, no, there is no fear or danger of that, but to themselves, who have made and created themselves and their minions, by the system of corruption introduced and established into all parts of the hillock for a generation past, the necessary governors and directors of the sovereign's noble and beneficent spirit) will effect the execution of the secret, private,
 7 partial,

partial, and interested schemes of their own narrow, contracted spirits. They seem assured, that the weight of debts ; the knavery of contracts ; the love of tyranny in the inferior departments of the state ; that universal, unmeasurable selfishness so successfully fixed in the hearts of all the red emmets, of almost every rank and denomination ; that venality which is the certain consequence of immoderate selfishness ; that corruption which is the favourite daughter of luxury and lust ; the frequent use of the gaming-tables which are in fashion amongst the wealthy emmets, as much as among you mortals of a nobler cast ; the sudden necessities which even the great are sometimes reduced to by a run of ill fortune, or the superior management of a set of sharpers artfully combined together to effect their ruin ; all these dreadful diseases and distempers of the body-politic they deem their sheet-anchor ;

and upon the continuance and progress of these evils and vices they build their choicest hopes, that notwithstanding all the efforts of the just and righteous patriots of the colony, notwithstanding their disinterested schemes and salutary designs for the restoration and maintenance of public faith, public peace, and public prosperity, their patience shall have its perfect work at last; they shall see, and that ere long, the utter downfall and destruction of those airy phantoms which the false glasses of philosophy have transformed into real substances, and represented as the greatest blessings of the emmet world.

“ They trust to the natural depravity of the emmet heart for the speedy restoration of themselves and their minions, with a seven-fold lustre, to the throne of power ; and that every effort which liberty and freedom may make to re-establish themselves in the hearts of the emmet world, shall the
more

more largely contribute to their own glory, grandeur, and aggrandizement, by laying these their most mortal enemies open to more cruel and deadly stabs ; and thus enable them more effectually to sink them all so deep in the pit of destruction, as never to rise again to counteract their schemes, and disappoint their views of raising themselves to the pinnacle of fame and grandeur, and displaying their glories as the wanton, lordly, absolute tyrants of the red emmet world.

“ Secretly animated with such baleful prospects, they sit patient and gloomy, brooding over the destruction of the colony, flattering themselves in secret, that the time shall speedily arrive when they shall spurn their enemies from their patriotic heights, and trample under foot all their Utopian schemes of reformation ; at present contenting themselves with secret-

ly counteracting their designs, counterworking their views, and artfully undermining the principles of faith, truth, integrity, honesty, generosity, and religion, originally implanted in every emmet's breast, by presenting to their view the glittering appearances of shining sand, as the sole foundation of virtue, religion, happiness, and glory, and as the Summum Bonum or chiefest good of every emmet's soul. But I hope and trust, Eugenio, that all their malicious and flagitious schemes and counsels shall be disappointed and defeated, and return with the truest justice and severest vengeance upon their own heads, and that the supreme governor of the emmet race will defeat all their machinations, and empty the vial of his vengeance upon them, to make them signal examples of the fatal effects of rapacity, covetousness, pride, unmeasurable ambition, and

and inordinate self-love : And that so long as there shall be a righteous sovereign upon the throne, and ten righteous men in his realm, the happy constitution shall preserve itself in the midst of the most violent agues and convulsions ; that it will naturally shake off its peccant humours, and the *Salus Populi* shall be its salvation.

“ If thou lovest virtue, Eugenio, thyself, and thy country, join with me in the wish ; for as sure as public virtue, integrity, beneficence, and generosity of spirit, exalt a nation and make a people happy, so surely will the contrary and opposite vices gradually bring on the destruction of all peace, order, and prosperity, in every community, whether it be in the world of emmets, or a superior order of existences, such as human nature boasts and prides itself to be.”

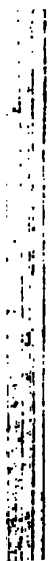
Here the Sylph concluded his harangue ; and taking the philosopher up as he had
done

done before, he suddenly transported him to the same place from whence he brought him ; and signifying that he had received the orders of his superior to leave him to himself and his own reflections for a season, he gently set him down, and then immediately vanished out of his sight.

The philosopher recollecting the hillock just under his feet, and enraged at the dreadful picture the Sylph had drawn of that depravity and corruption which had invaded and filled the minds of a particular cabal of the red emmets against the innocent, the quiet, and peaceable parts of the colony ; and being fully satisfied, that they were so exasperated at the late overthrow of their measures as to stick at nothing which fury and rage could inspire, to put their destructive schemes into full and compleat execution ; rouzed with resentment at their dire attempts, and warmed with a fervent zeal for the protection of the wor-

thier and more beneficent part of the hillock, he determined to crush all their wicked designs in the bud, and by one dash of his foot, to root out and totally annihilate such a vile and abandoned race; when immediately advancing to strike his foot against that part of the hillock, with a view to extirpate without exception every noxious ant, he gave it such a violent blow against one of the bed-posts as awakened him out of a profound sleep, when the philosopher found, that all the busy scenes which had so strongly possessed his imagination were ideal only, and the whole rhapsody but the Phantasm of a Dream.

F I N I S.



E R R A T A.

Page 14, line 7. for *metal* read *nettle* ; p. 19, l. 11. for *fall* read *state* ; p. 54, l. 17. for *beart* read *beat* ; p. 69, l. 20. add *their* ; p. 69, l. 21. for *exalt* read *exalting* ; p. 81, l. 10. for *rational* read *national* ; p. 83, l. 18. for *duty* read *Deity* ; p. 107, l. 10. add *to*.



